

MARVEL

25

LGY#

650

**CANTWELL
UNZUETA
D'ARMATA**

IRON MAN



PLUS:

ANNIVERSARY STORIES BY
KURT BUSIEK &
BENJAMIN DEWEY AND
MUREWA AYODELE &
DOTUN AKANDE! AND A
LOOK AHEAD AT
THE ALL-NEW

IRON MAN

Iron Man recently proposed to Hellcat, but she told him she wasn't ready for marriage and departed for San Francisco. Iron Man then dedicated himself to taking down Source Control, an international black market for high-powered weaponry and technology. He exhausted his wealth buying up Source Control's wares and with the help of War Machine and Ironheart, also acquired the Mandarin's rings of power. Tony initially disagreed with Ironheart over what to do with the rings, but ultimately agreed that Ironheart could keep them in an effort to utilize their powers for good.

A HERO AND A FRIEND



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IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

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Iron Man Day



1. Trending in United States

@lr0nH3artBFFmvl

So excited 4 #IronManDay! ❤️❤️❤️ Will Riri show???

2. Trending in United States

@HereWeBeauAgainmvl

Spending #IronManDay on my feet for a 12-hr shift... Should be a Nat'l Holiday or it doesn't count

3. Trending in United States

@MikesHardWatergatemvl

Iron Man Day hits different when you remember the Registration Act

4. Trending in United States

@ClaudiasMom37mvl

Our 5 yr old dressed as Iron Man (Extremis) for Pre-K today! Happy Iron Man Day!



5. Trending in United States

@FistWayfayermvl

Would be funny / sad if Stark were still in a coma for #IronMan-Day... 😭😂

6. Trending in United States

@SpoooooookyToddmvl

Love to see the NYC taxpayer balance sheet for awarding yet another billionaire a key to the city & a parade that shuts down all traffic around the Park

7. Trending in United States

@TomBrevoortmvl

Is @IronManTonyS even on here anymore? Why can't I tag him?

8. Trending in United States

@BaseballRaymvl

In '14, a car almost fell on my dad and Iron Man caught it. He saved my father's life. Thank you, Iron Man. Sincerely. #IronMan-Day #Blessed #Grateful #DodgerBlue

9. Trending in United States

@AttentionHoosiersmvl

fat tony in da house



IRON MAN
DAY.

IT WASN'T
MY IDEA.

BUT WHEN I'D...
"MIRACULOUSLY"
COME OUT OF MY
COMA A FEW
WEEKS AGO...*

...THERE WAS AN
HONEST-TO-GOD
REACTION OF...

...JOY?

TURNS OUT, PEOPLE
WERE STILL GLAD TO
HAVE ME AROUND,
WHICH IS NICE.

BUT THEN THE CITY
COUNCIL HAD TO
GO AND DECLARE
TODAY..."IRON
MAN DAY."

CUE THE
DISCOURSE.

*TONY FAKED A COMA
TO TAKE ON SOURCE
CONTROL UNDERCOVER
IN ISSUES #23-24.
--TOM

SOME OF IT'S LEGITIMATE.
I GRANT THAT.
IF I HAVE A LEGACY, IT'S...
A **COMPLICATED** ONE.
FOR INSTANCE...

...I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN
IF PEOPLE SUDDENLY LEARNED I
HAD A **MASSIVE WAREHOUSE** ON
LONG ISLAND FULL OF THE MOST
 DANGEROUS WEAPONS AND
TECHNOLOGY ON THE PLANET?

OUR "**BOOM
CLOSET**" HAS
DEFINITELY GROWN
TO **WALK-IN** SIZE,
HASN'T IT?

I BOUGHT OUT
SOURCE CONTROL'S
ENTIRE INVENTORY.
BROKE THE WEAPONS
RING COMPLETELY.

SPYMASTER AND CARL
WALKER ARE NOW SITTING
PRETTY SOMEWHERE IN THE
DARKFORCE DIMENSION.

RHOPEY, HOW LONG
AM I SUPPOSED TO
WATCH OVER THIS
STUFF? IT'LL TAKE
TONY **YEARS** TO
REVERSE ENGINEER
AND DISMANTLE
IT ALL.

DON'T
I KNOW
IT...

HAPPY
IRON MAN DAY,
BETHANY.

HM, YEAH,
HAPPY **IRON
MAN DAY,**
RIGHT...



OF COURSE...
I LET ONE OF THE
MOST DANGEROUS
WEAPONS GO.

RIRI WILLIAMS
HAS THE
MANDARIN'S
RINGS.

SHE THINKS
SHE CAN *SAVE*
THE WORLD
WITH THEM.

WOULDN'T
THAT BE
NICE?

I'M DOING MY
BEST TO *TRUST*
HER ON THIS.

AND IF ANYONE
CAN ACTUALLY
PULL IT OFF,
IT'S *HER*.

BUT I THINK--I
WORRY--ABOUT HER
AND THOSE RINGS--
ON AVERAGE--EVERY
TWELVE MINUTES
OF EVERY DAY.

I'VE ACTUALLY
CLOCKED AND LOGGED
IT WITH *B.O.S.S.*, WHO'S
BUILDING AN *OUTPUT*
SPREADSHEET OF MY
ANXIETY.



THE DREAM
MURDERER HAS
INFILTRATED THE
SUB-THOUGHTS OF
THESE ALCATRAZ
PRISONERS.

BUT THOSE
PRISONERS ON YOUR
ARREST WARRANT...
THEY'RE LONG DEAD.
NOTHING BUT
GHOSTS NOW.

PRECISELY.
GHOSTS.

GHOSTS...
WHO KILL.

PATSY'S STILL IN
SAN FRANCISCO,
DOING WHO-
KNOWS-WHAT.

I CAN NEVER REALLY
WRAP MY HEAD AROUND
THE **SUPERNATURAL**
STUFF, BUT SHE'S ALL
ABOUT IT THESE DAYS.

I THINK SHE'S HAVING
A **GOOD TIME** OUT
THERE. SEEING **OLD**
FRIENDS. MAKING
NEW ONES.
FIGHTING **DEMONS**.

I MEANT TO **GO OUT**
THERE AFTER THE
COMA... THEN **SHE** WAS
GOING TO COME OUT
TO NEW YORK, BUT...

...THE **TRUTH IS...**
WE HAVEN'T EVEN
TALKED IN A FEW
WEEKS.

I **MISS** HER.
I THINK ABOUT
HER A LOT.

I'M NOT HAVING
B.O.S.S. BUILD A
SPREADSHEET OUT
OF **THAT** DATA
SET THOUGH.

OKAY, I'M GETTING A LITTLE TOO CLOSE TO *FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF* RIGHT NOW. TRYING NOT TO DO THAT THESE DAYS.

MAYBE I'M JUST *AVOIDING* THE OBVIOUS. I'M SUPPOSED TO GIVE A *SPEECH* IN LESS THAN AN HOUR. IT'S THE *LAST* THING I WANT TO DO, HONESTLY.

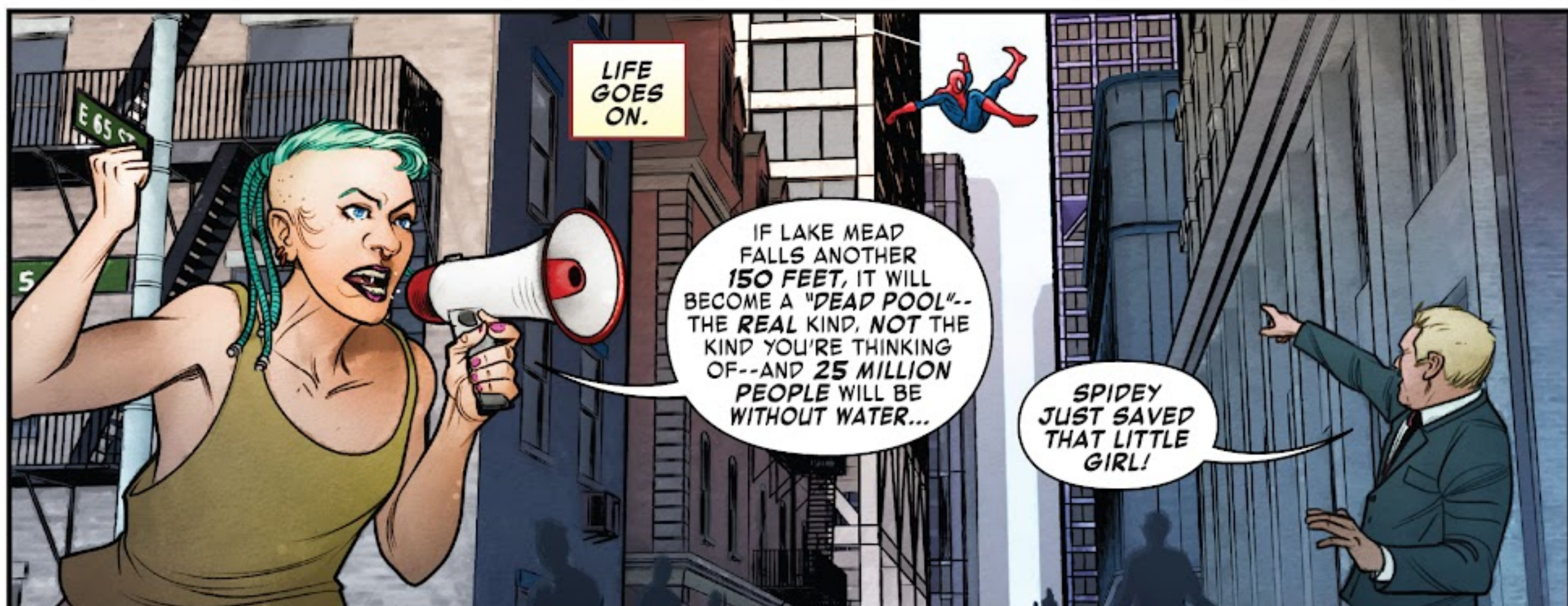
THANK YOU, IRON MAN.

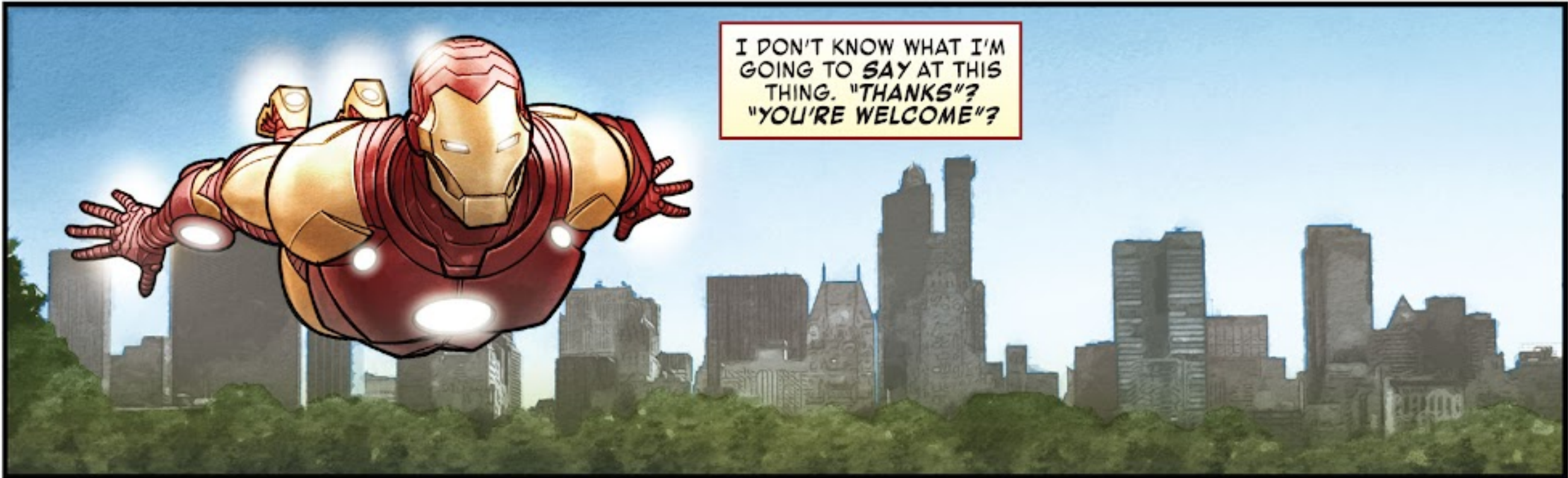
E 79 ST
SAV

I'M HONORED, BUT I COULD'VE DONE WITHOUT *THIS*. BECAUSE I *KNEW* IT WOULD PISS SOME PEOPLE OFF.

OF COURSE, IF I'D TURNED IT DOWN, IT PROBABLY WOULD'VE PISSED OFF *EVEN MORE* PEOPLE.







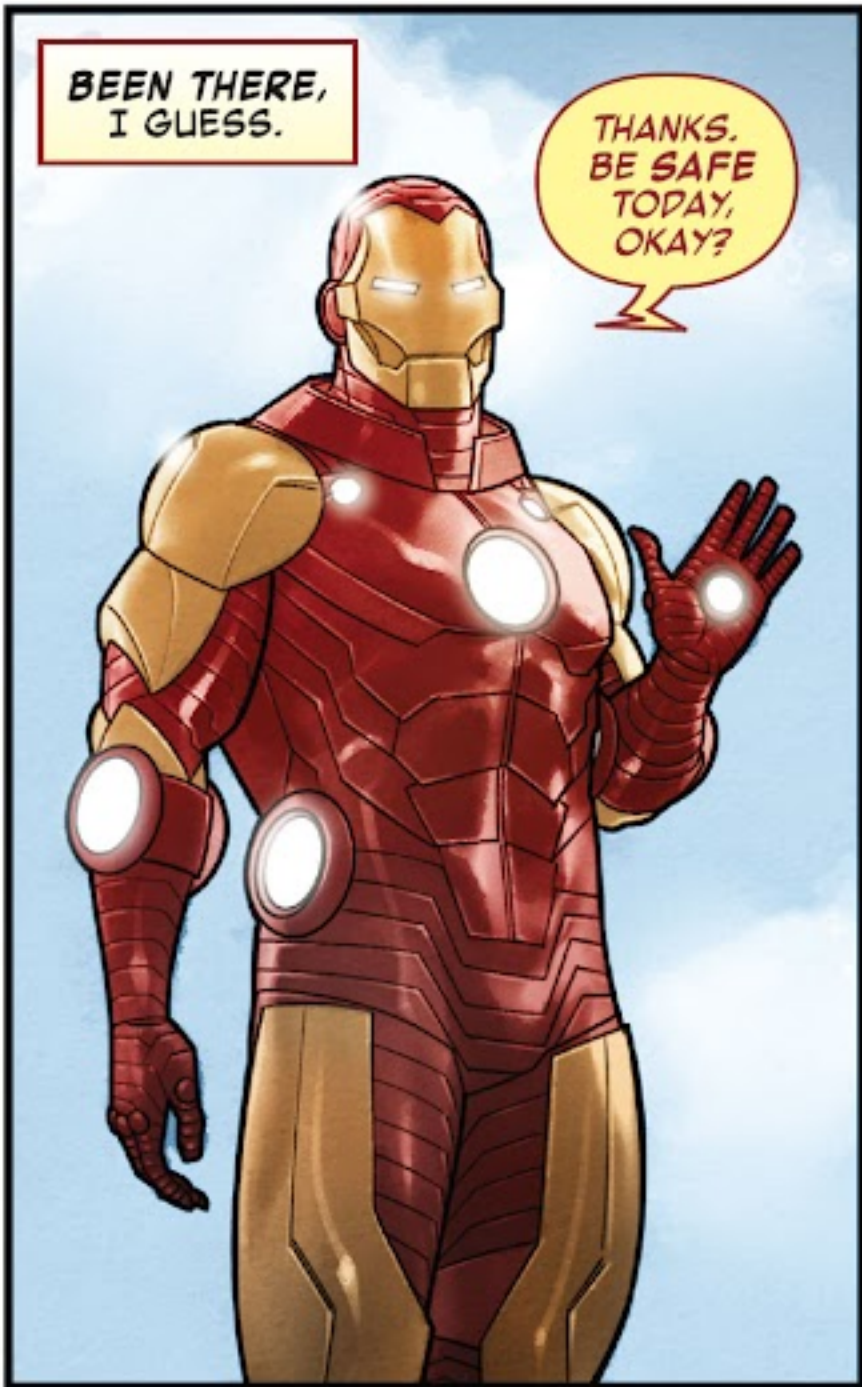
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY AT THIS THING. "THANKS"? "YOU'RE WELCOME"?



IRON MAN!
YEAH!

Woohoo!

OH MAN. THOSE GUYS ARE *BLITZED* AND IT'S NOT EVEN 11:00 A.M.



BEEN THERE, I GUESS.

THANKS. BE SAFE TODAY, OKAY?



I'LL TAKE THE LONG WAY TO 79TH--MAYBE THE WALKING WILL HELP ME THINK OF WHAT TO SAY BETTER THAN FLYING WILL.



I COULD JUST GO OFF THE CUFF UP THERE. I'M *GOOD* OFF THE CUFF. I'VE DONE IT A THOUSAND TIMES...



OH MY
GOD.

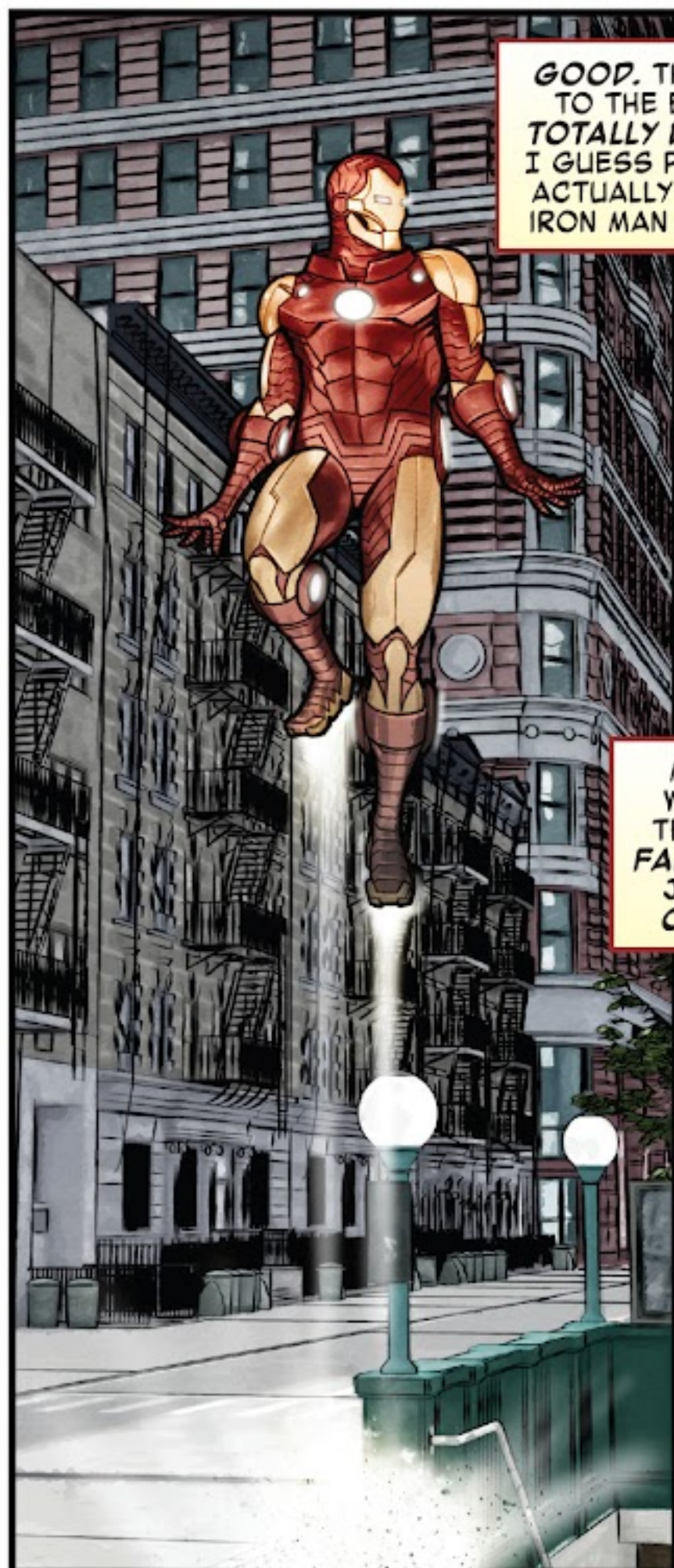


CHECK. CHECK.
SIBILANCE.
SIBILANCE.

I CAN'T
DO THIS.



MAYBE A
LITTLE MORE
FLYING.



GOOD. THE BLOCKS
TO THE EAST ARE
TOTALLY DESERTED.
I GUESS PEOPLE ARE
ACTUALLY INTO THIS
IRON MAN DAY THING.



MAYBE *THIS* IS
WHEN I SHOULD
TELL EVERYONE I
FAKED THAT COMA.
JUST PUBLICLY
COME CLEAN...



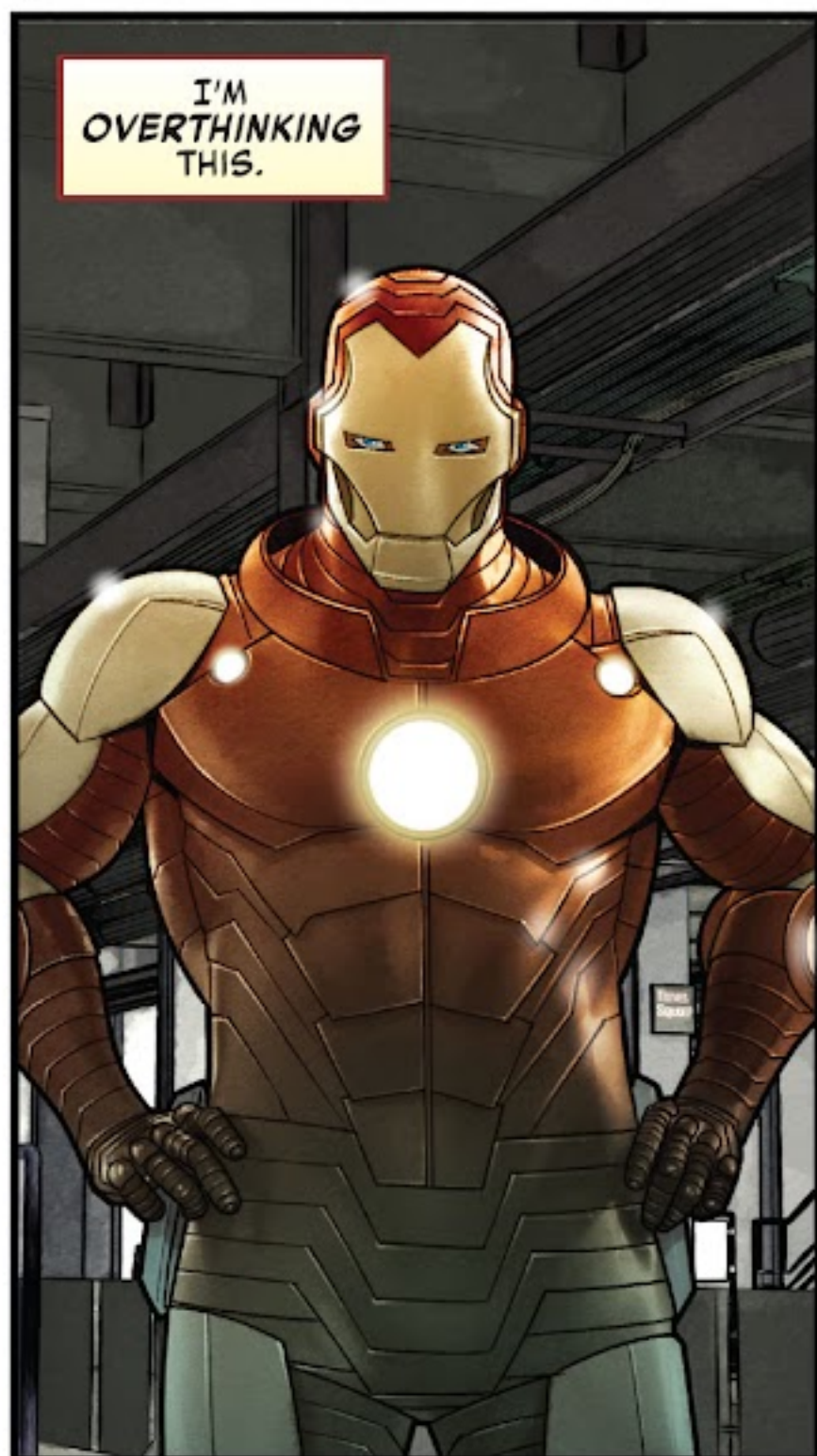
I NEED MORE
SPACE, JUST FOR
A SECOND. JUST TO
CLEAR MY HEAD.



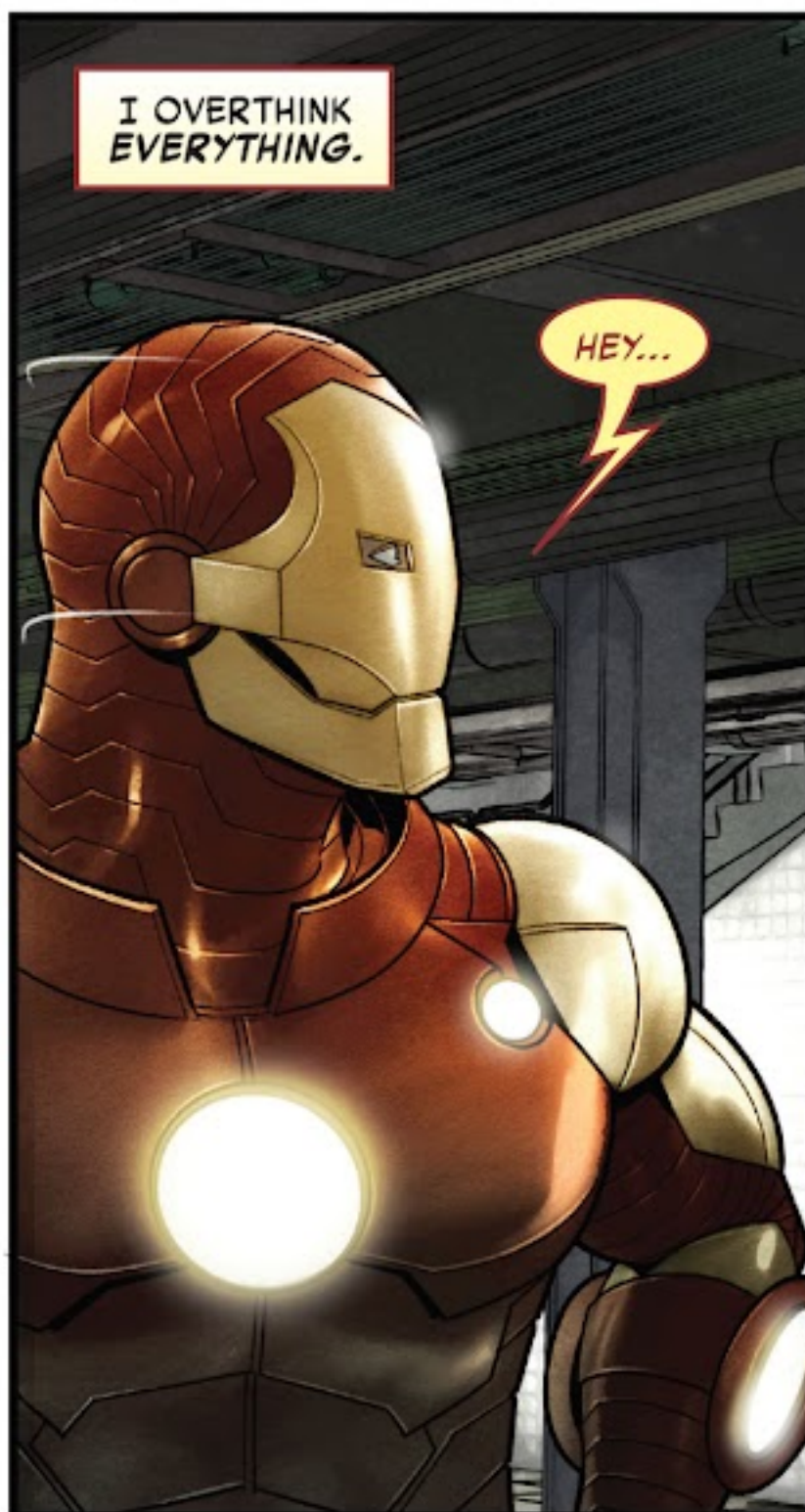
DID THEY *STOP*
THE TRAINS TOO?
JUST FOR IRON
MAN DAY? THAT'S
A BIT MUCH.

MAYBE I SHOULD
JUST RECITE MY
FAVORITE POEM ON
STAGE AND LEAVE.

DO I
EVEN HAVE
A FAVORITE
POEM?



I'M
OVERTHINKING
THIS.

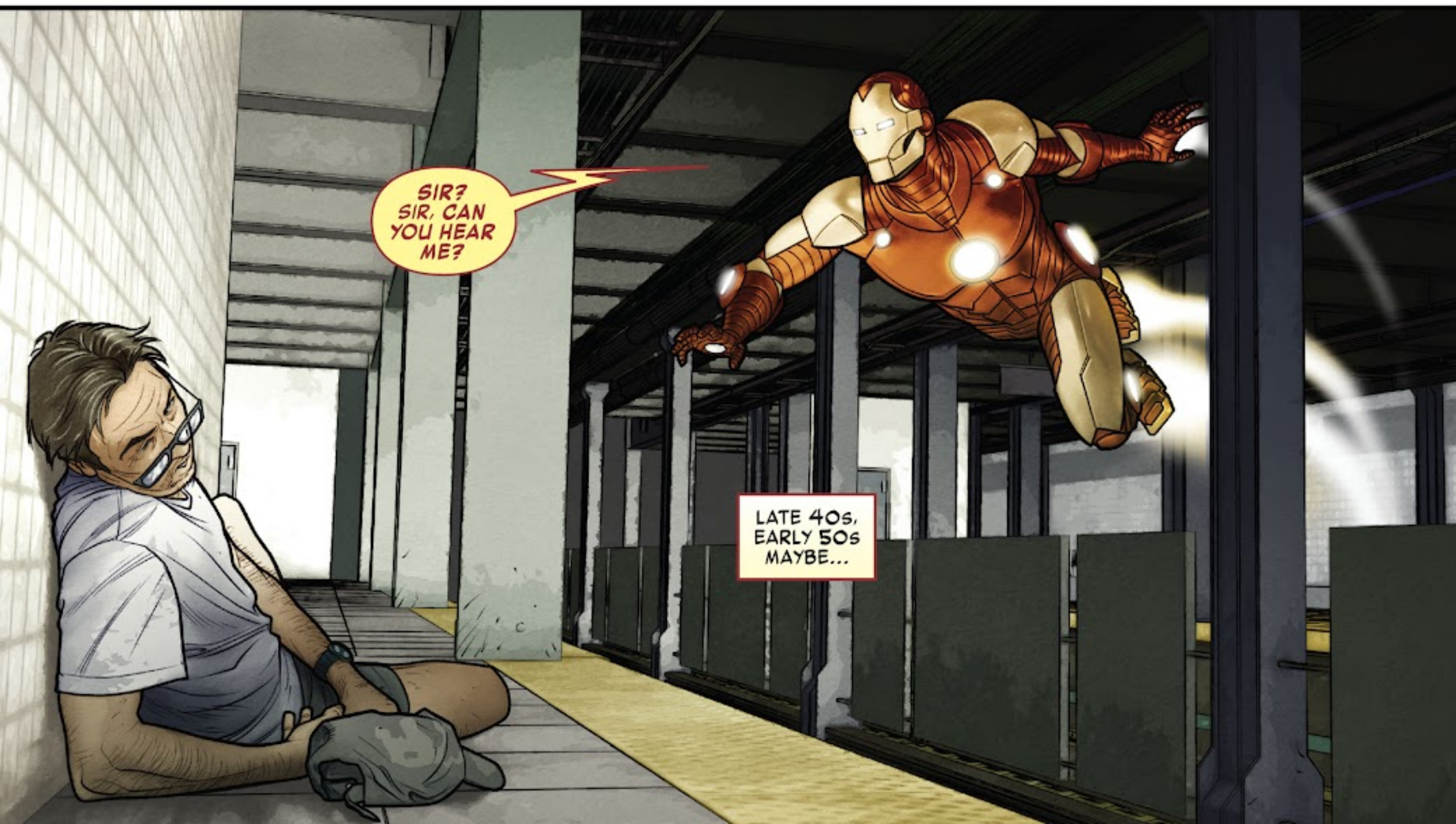


I OVERTHINK
EVERYTHING.

HEY...

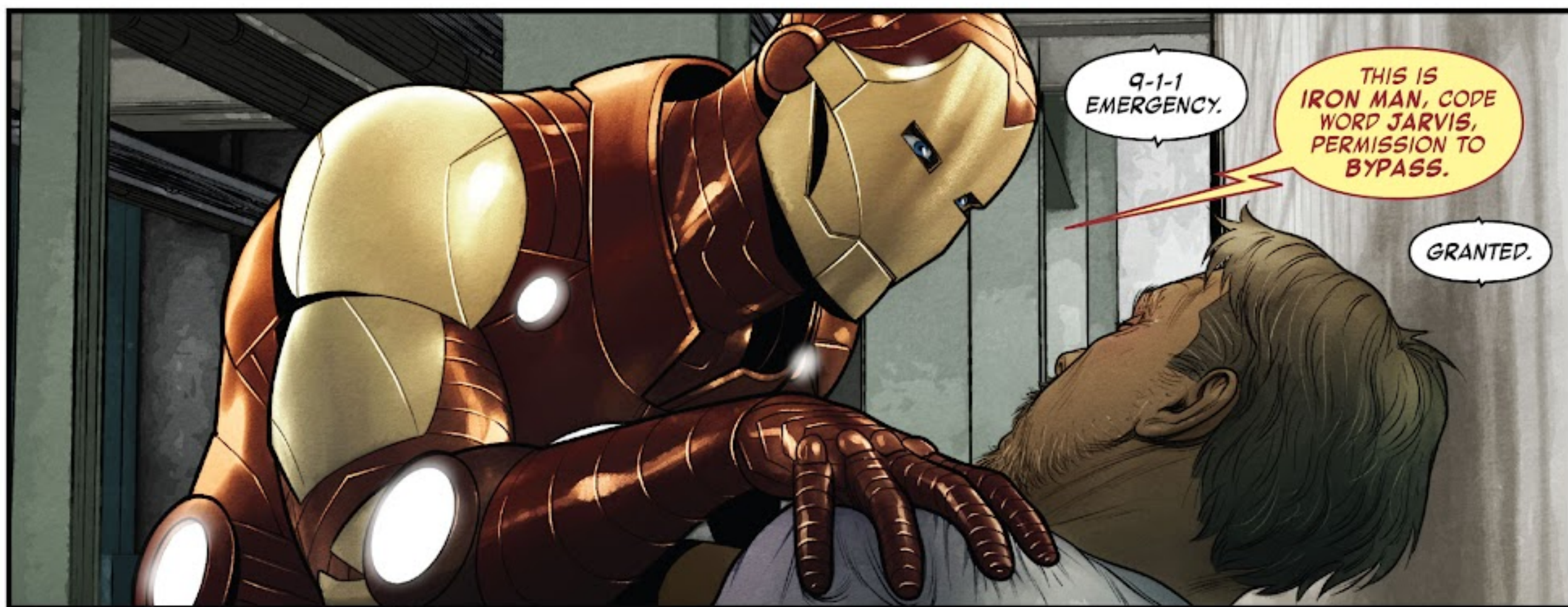
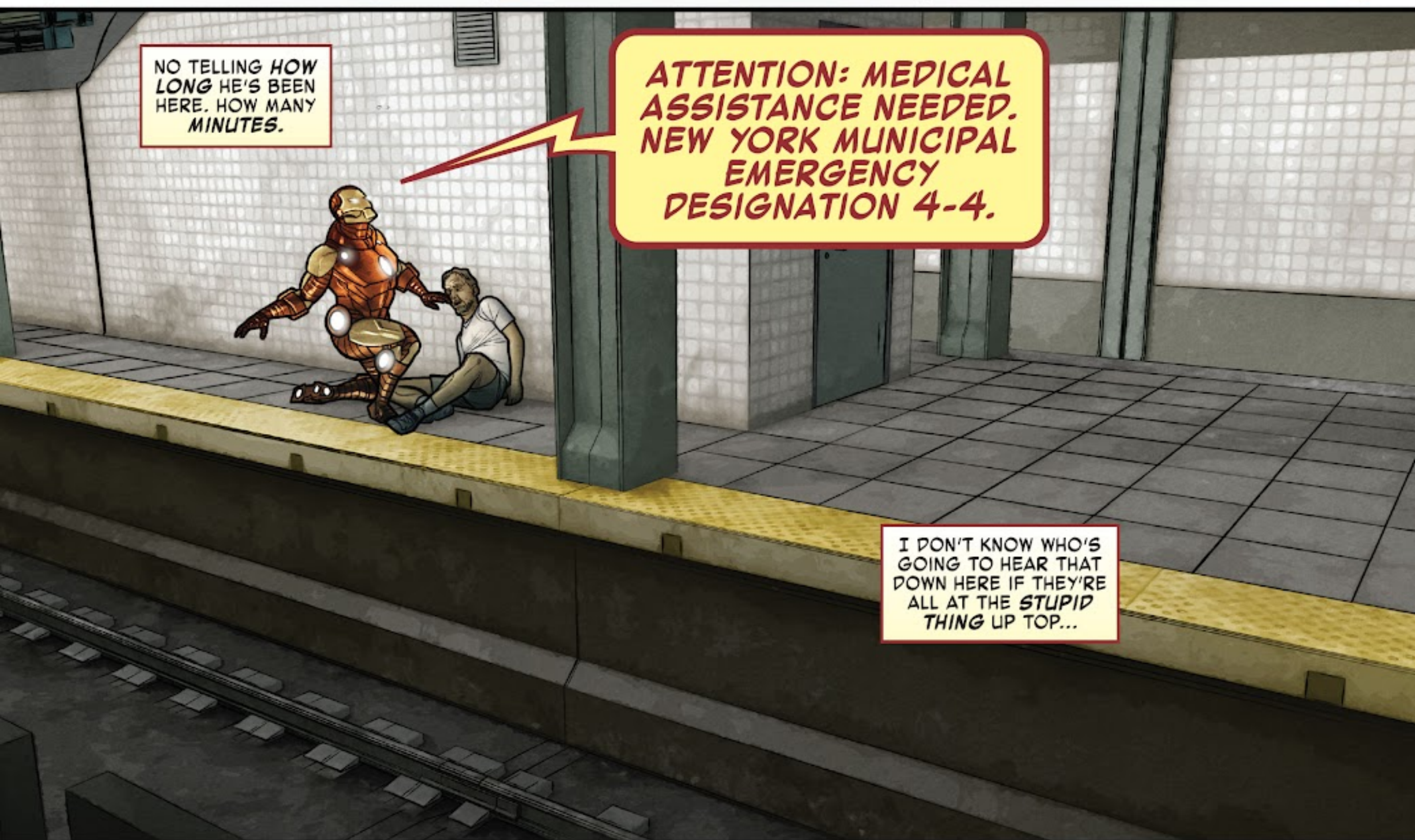
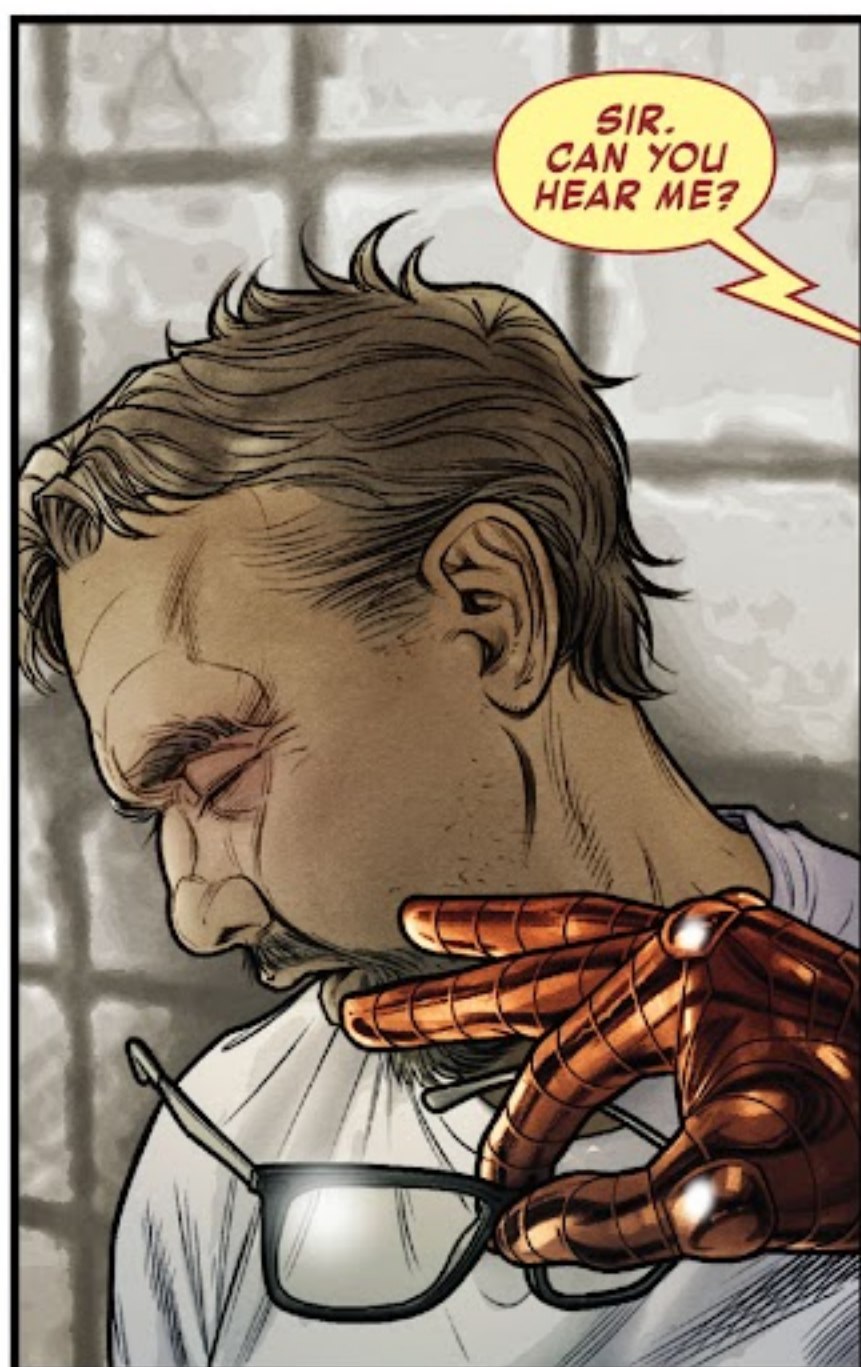


HEY...
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?



SIR?
SIR, CAN
YOU HEAR
ME?

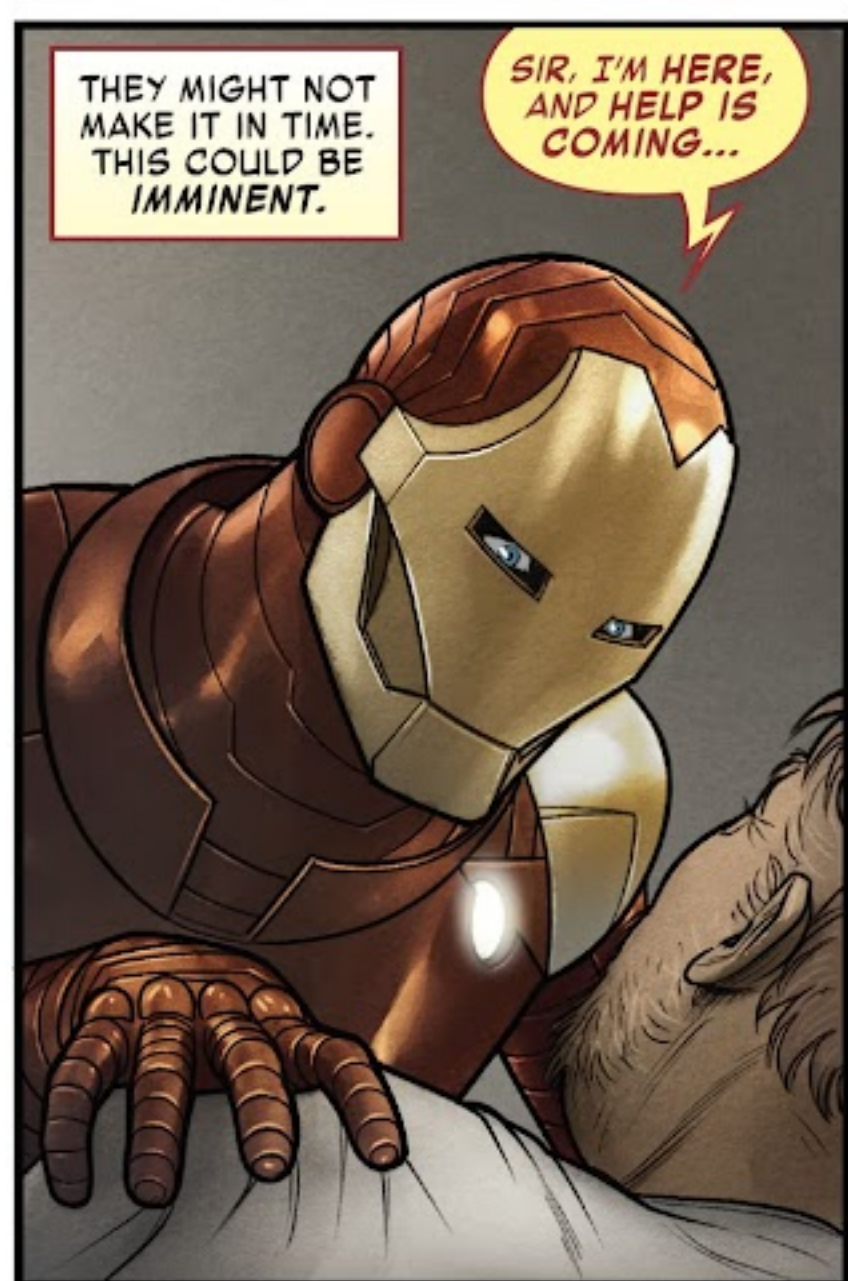
LATE 40s,
EARLY 50s
MAYBE...





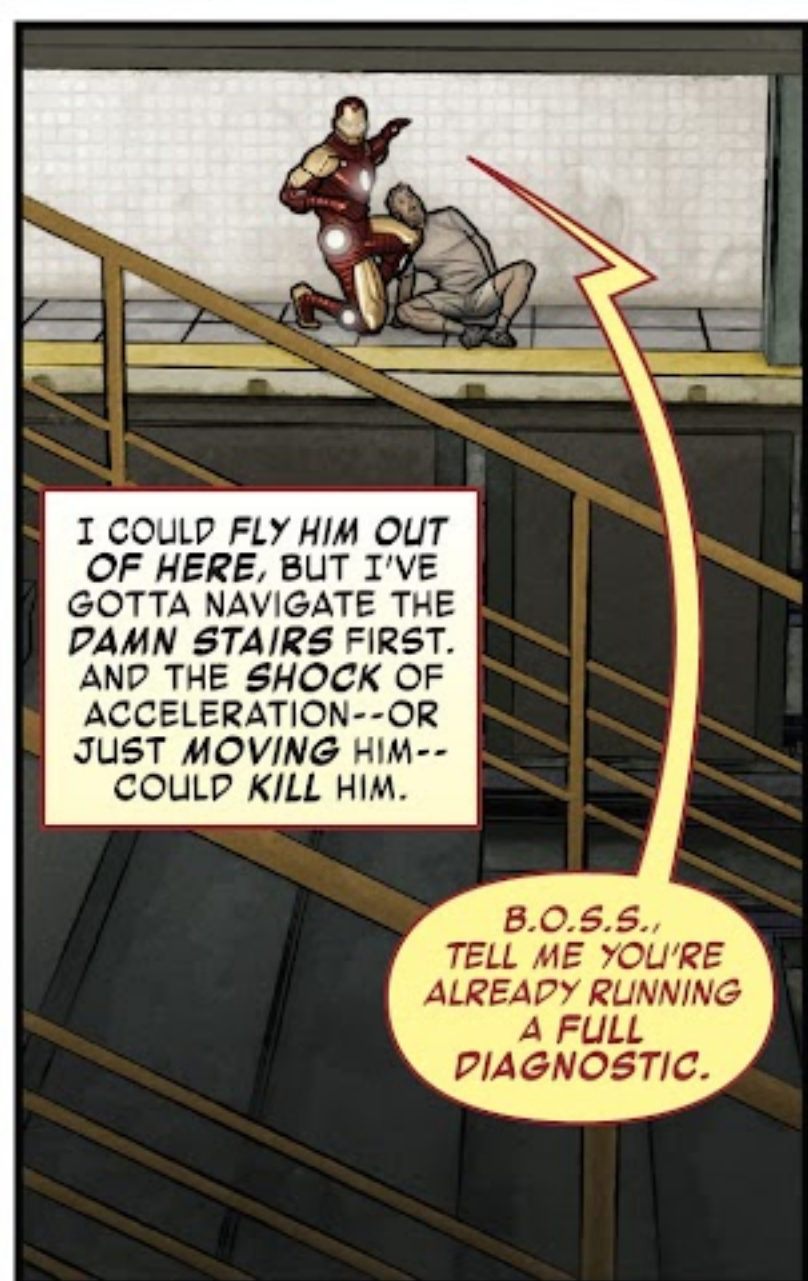
TRANSMITTING
GPS COORDINATES. SEND
EMTs TO LOCATION--I HAVE
A MEDICAL EMERGENCY
WITH A CIVILIAN. FAINT PULSE
AND BREATHING,
UNRESPONSIVE.

UNITS
HEADED TO
YOU NOW.



THEY MIGHT NOT
MAKE IT IN TIME.
THIS COULD BE
IMMINENT.

SIR, I'M HERE,
AND HELP IS
COMING...



I COULD FLY HIM OUT
OF HERE, BUT I'VE
GOTTA NAVIGATE THE
DAMN STAIRS FIRST.
AND THE SHOCK OF
ACCELERATION--OR
JUST MOVING HIM--
COULD KILL HIM.

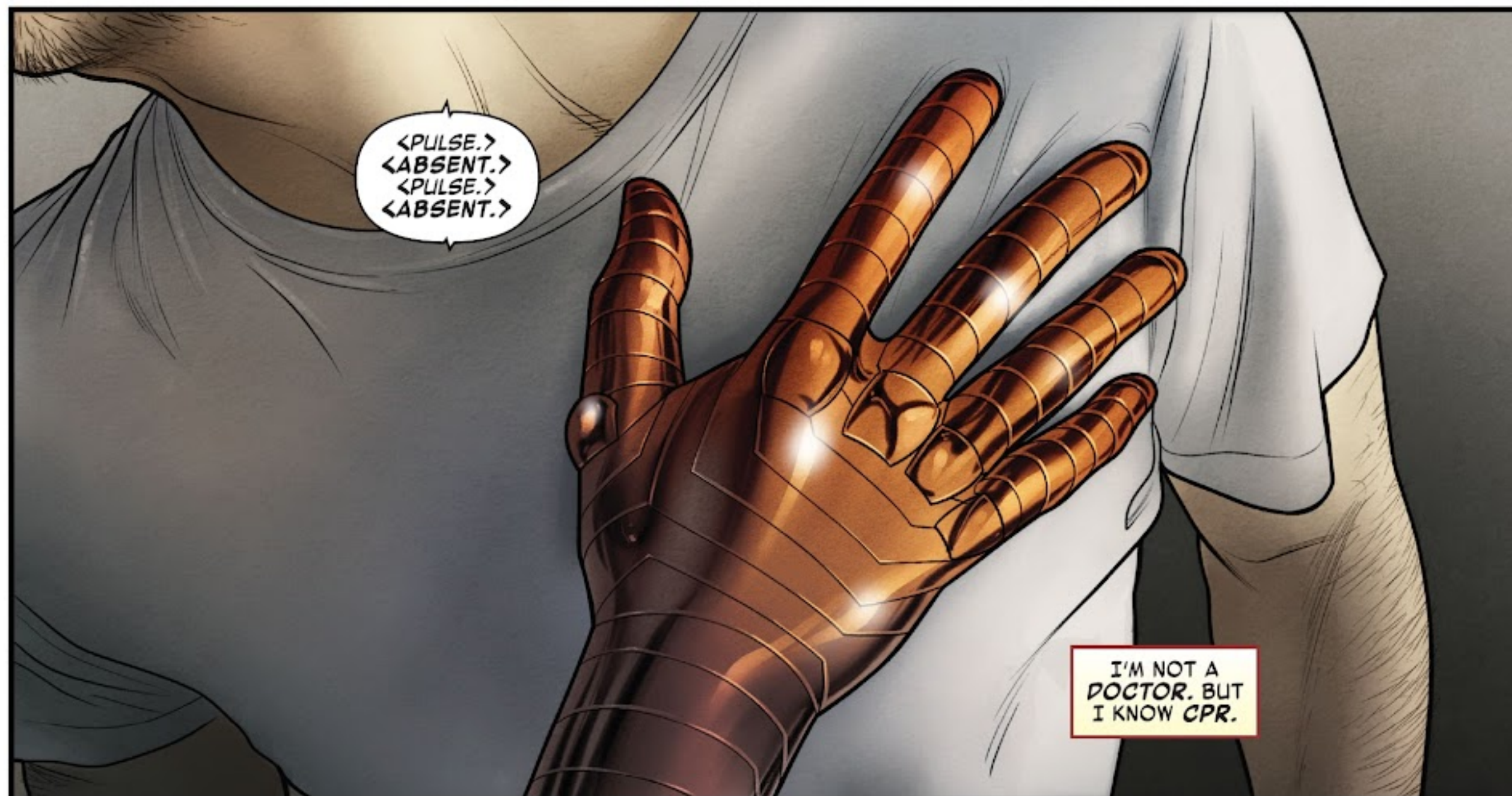
B.O.S.S.,
TELL ME YOU'RE
ALREADY RUNNING
A FULL
DIAGNOSTIC.



<MYOCARDIAL
INFARCTION.
SEVERE.>

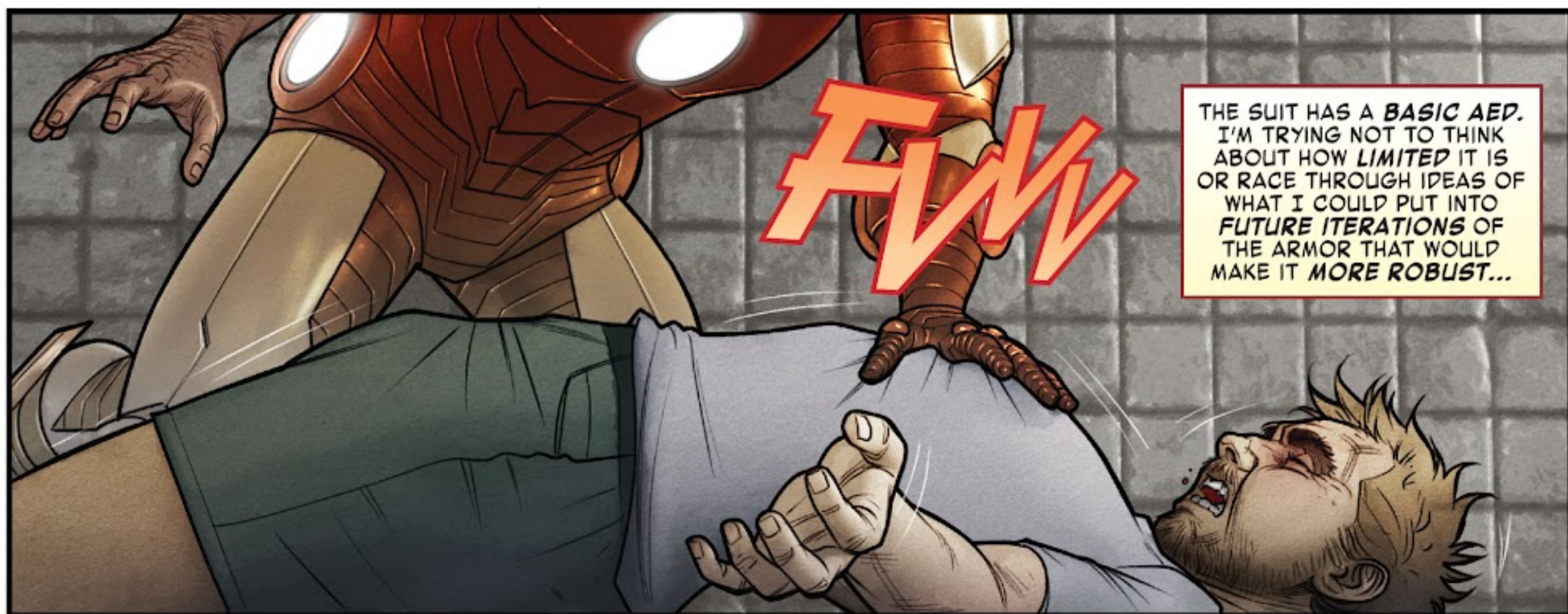
BLOCKAGE?
WHAT AM I DEALING
WITH HERE?
C'MON--

<UNKNOWN.>
<POSSIBLE STEMI.
NSTEMI. CAS-->

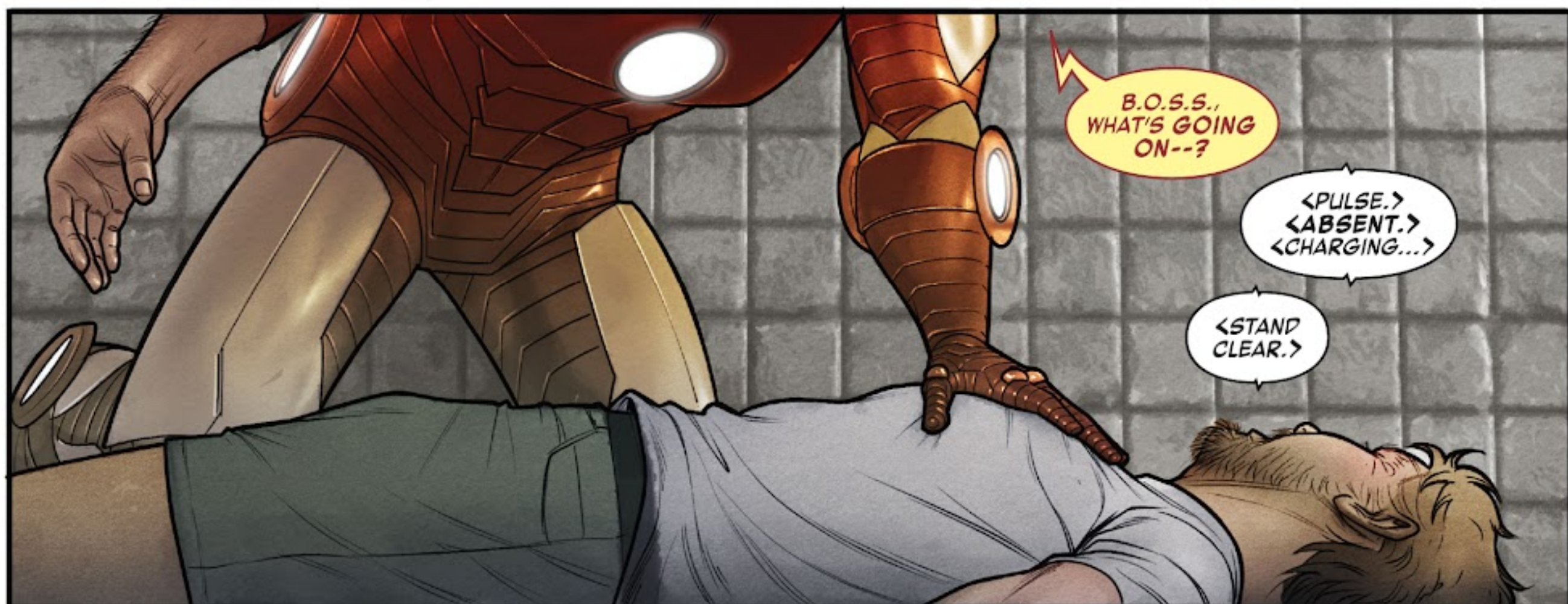


<PULSE.>
<ABSENT.>
<PULSE.>
<ABSENT.>

I'M NOT A
DOCTOR. BUT
I KNOW CPR.



THE SUIT HAS A **BASIC AED**.
I'M TRYING NOT TO THINK
ABOUT HOW **LIMITED** IT IS
OR RACE THROUGH IDEAS OF
WHAT I COULD PUT INTO
FUTURE ITERATIONS OF
THE ARMOR THAT WOULD
MAKE IT **MORE ROBUST...**



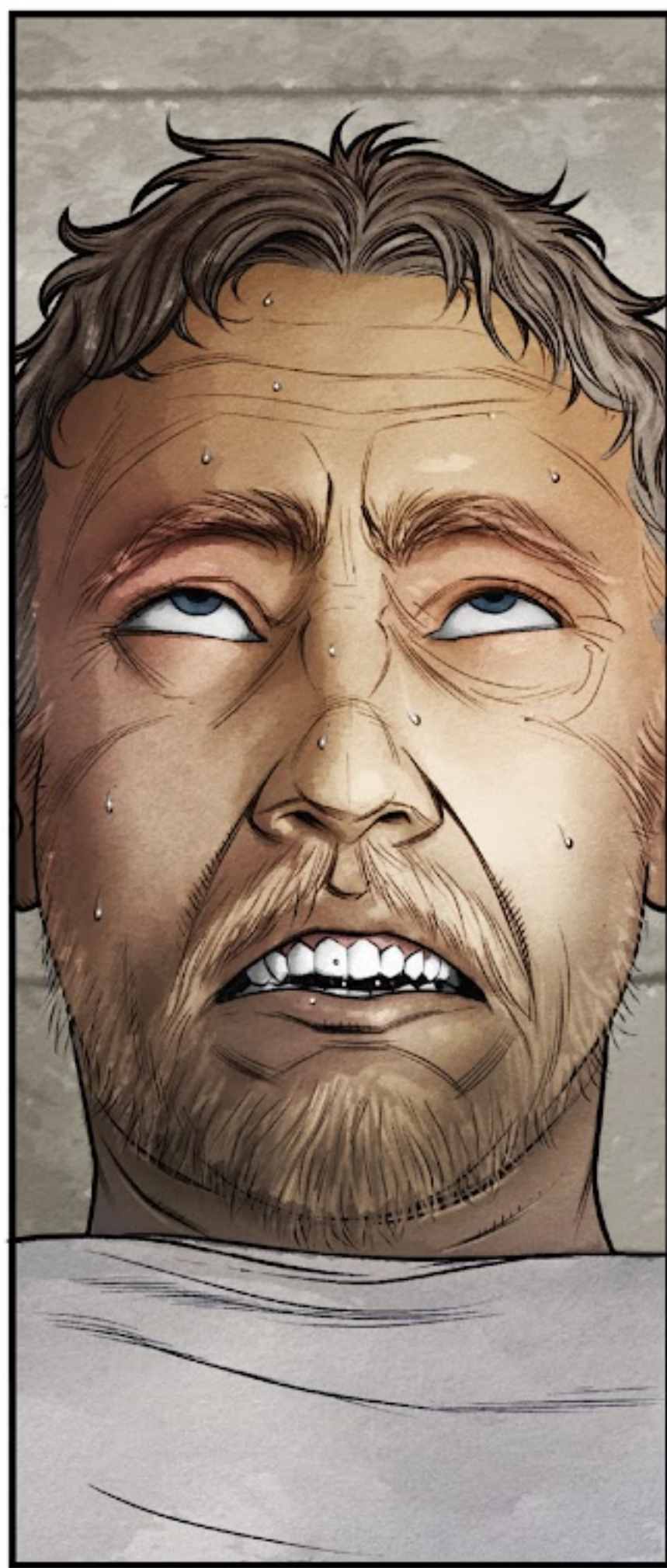
B.O.S.S.,
WHAT'S GOING
ON--?

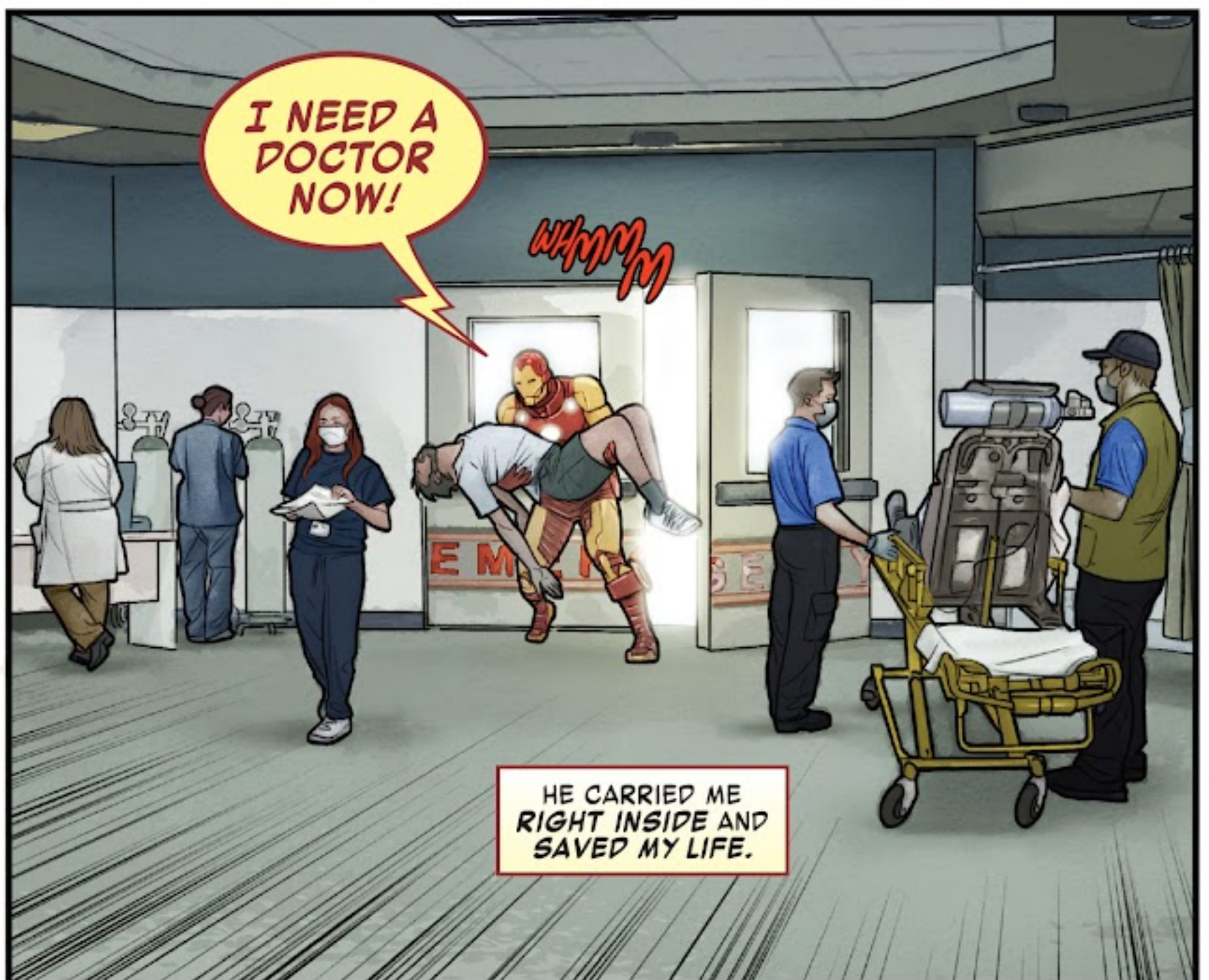
<PULSE.>
<ABSENT.>
<CHARGING...>

<STAND
CLEAR.>



I'M HERE.
I'M RIGHT
HERE WITH
YOU.







"I KNOW *IRON MAN* WANTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU TODAY, TO FEEL YOUR *GRATITUDE...*"



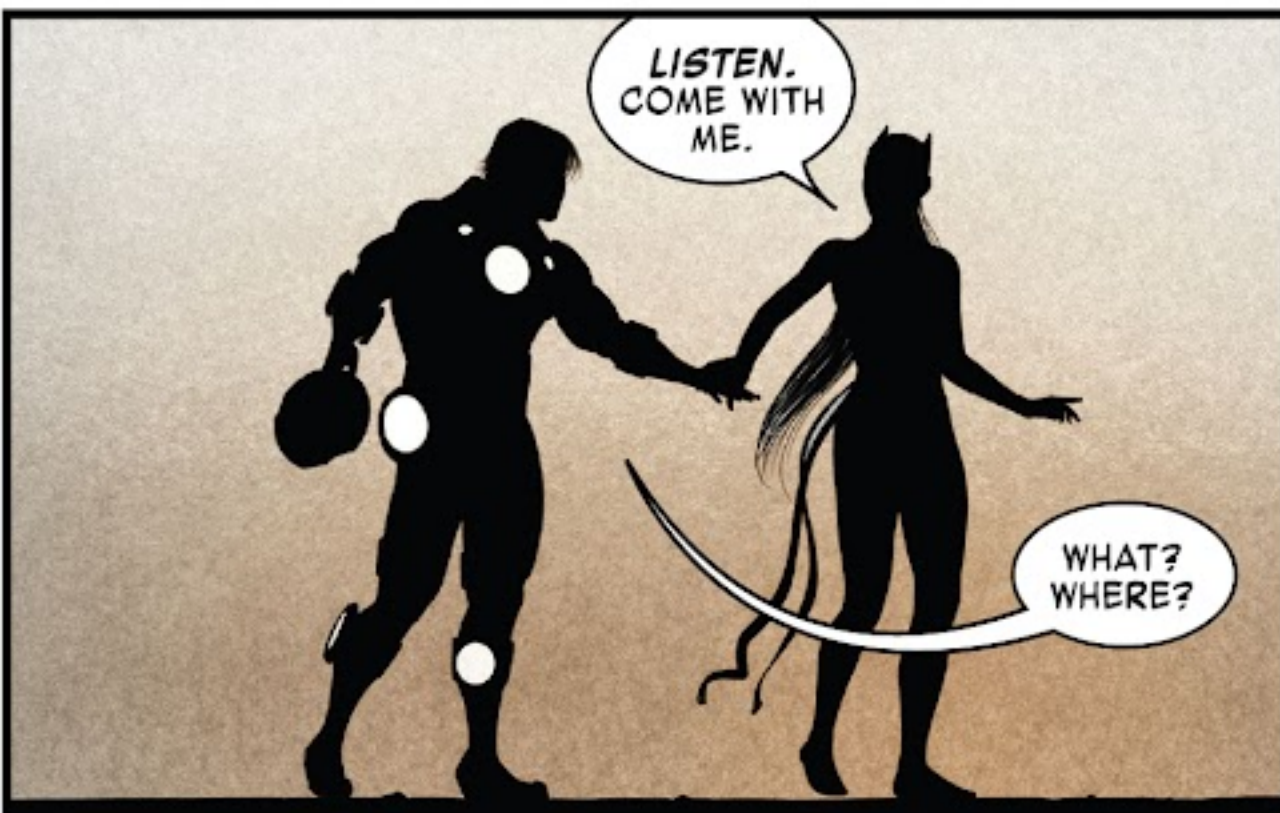
...I CAN ONLY GUESS THAT HE WAS CALLED AWAY TO DO *SOMETHING HEROIC*, YET AGAIN, ON BEHALF OF ALL OF US...



HOSPITAL

I NEVER EVEN TOOK MY #&%& *HELMET OFF*.







**THE
END.**

Not only is *Iron Man* #25 the final issue of Christopher Cantwell's epic volume, it's also *Iron Man* #650! In honor of this momentous milestone, we present three new stories representing Iron Man's past—and future!

Our first story takes place during the *Invincible Iron Man* run from the mid-2010s...

DADDY'S BOYS

WRITER • MUREWA AYODELE **ARTIST** • DOTUN AKANDE

Our second story is a faux reprint from *Tales of Suspense* #126...

BATTLE BEHIND THE BAMBOO CURTAIN

WRITER • KURT BUSIEK **ARTIST** • BENJAMIN DEWEY



And our third and final story is a sneak peek at what's to come in the new volume of *Invincible Iron Man*...

THINGS TO COME

WRITER • GERRY DUGGAN **ARTIST** • JUAN FRIGERI
COLOR ARTIST • BRYAN VALENZA

ASSISTANT EDITOR • KAT GREGOROWICZ **EDITOR** • DARREN SHAN

LETTERER • VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

DAY ONE.



DAY TWO.

CHARGING.



HYDRATING.

SALINE
SOLUTION...

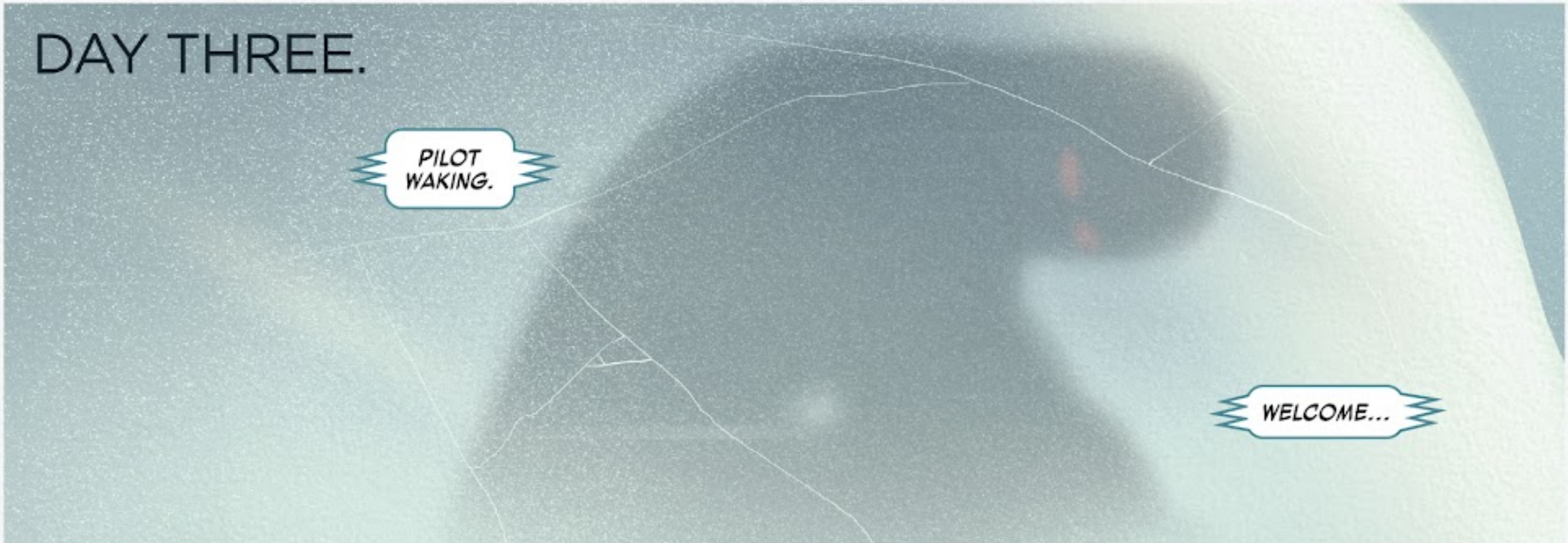
...ADMINISTERED
THROUGH INTRAVENOUS
THERAPY.



DAY THREE.

PILOT
WAKING.

WELCOME...



...IRON MAN.





JOTUNHEIM

H O M E O F T H E G I A N T S



FOUR DAYS LEFT.

ARE YOU
STILL THERE,
B.R.I.A.N.?

I'M YOUR
SUIT'S A.I., MISTER
STARK. I'M NOT SURE
I CAN LEAVE EVEN IF
I WANTED TO.

...THE
RICK DECKARD
PROTOCOL.

HEY,
B.R.I.A.N....

THREE DAYS LEFT.

...HAVE I EVER
TOLD YOU ABOUT THE
TIME THE HULK LEAPED
INTO THE AIR AND I COULD
SWEAR HE DIDN'T USE
HIS LEGS?

I WAS IN
SHOCK FROM
THE SONIC
BOOM.

HE
HAD REACHED
MACH ONE IN AN
INSTANT.

TWO DAYS LEFT.

...BUT THEN HE
TURNED, HE LOOKED
AT ME AND HE SMILED.
HULK NEVER SMILES.
BUT THAT ~~SHIT~~ SMILED AT ME.

THAT'S WHEN
THE SMELL HIT ME.
GAMMA FART.

MY LUNGS
FEEL MUCH WORSE
THAN THEY DID
THEN.

I'M AFRAID
THAT'S THE FIFTEENTH
TIME YOU HAVE TOLD THIS
STORY, MISTER STARK.
BRAIN ACTIVITY
SUGGESTS YOU MIGHT
BE DELIRIOUS.

I WOULD
ADVISE THAT YOU
FIND SOME SHELTER,
FOOD AND REST.

YOU THINK
JOTUNHEIM HAS
GOOD CREPES?
DAD USED
TO--

GAH!

NOT
BEYOND
THERE!



HEY!
TRYNA RIP
MY ARM OUT,
BIG GUY?

NO GOD
SHALL PASS
BEYOND THE
FROZEN LAKE
OF TEARS.

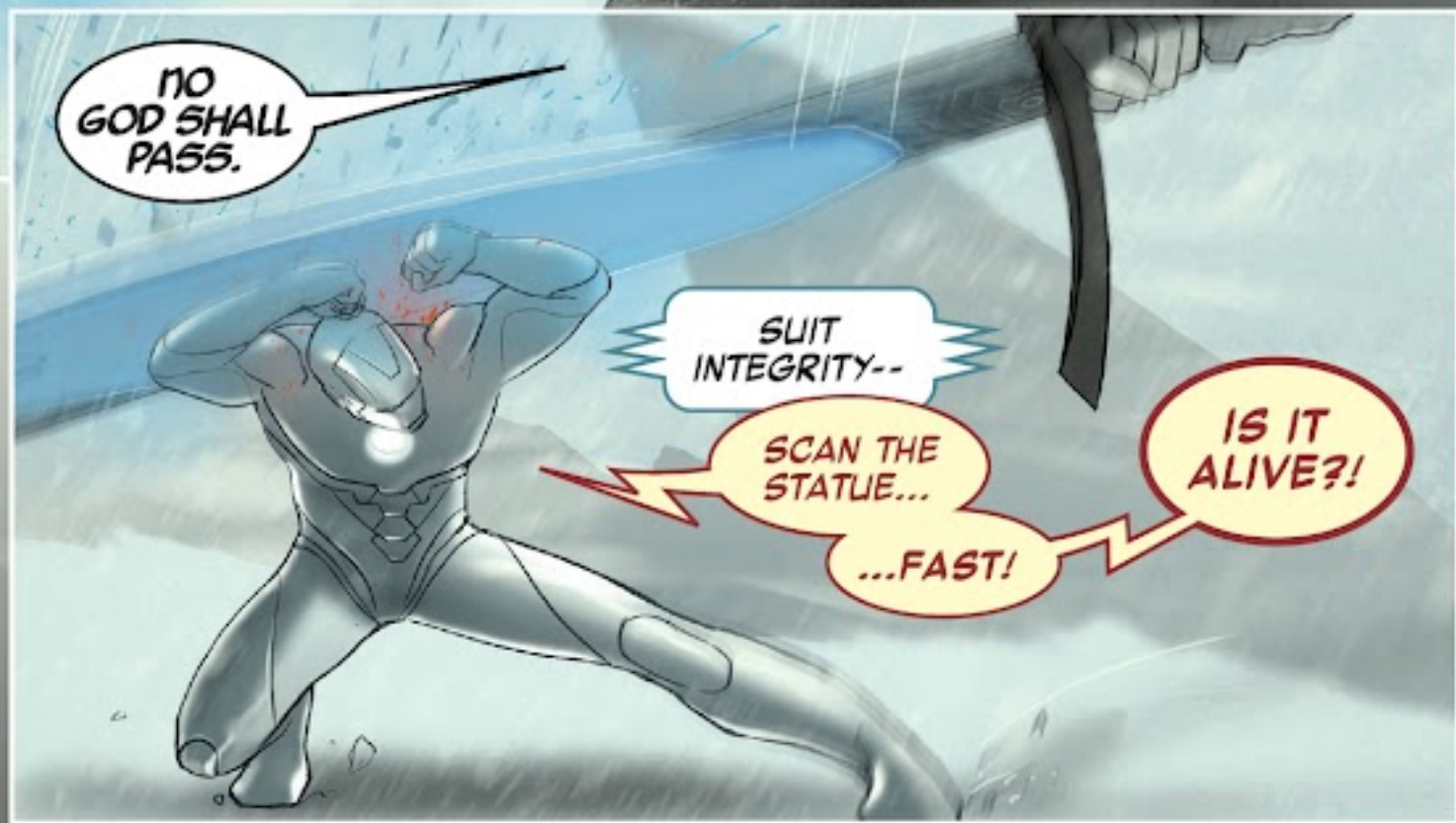
THIS IS THE
SACRED LAND
OF THE FROST
GIANTS.

ABOUT
THAT...
...I'M NOT
A GOD.

NO
GOD SHALL
PASS.



SURE.
YOU
KEEP SAYING
THAT.



NO
GOD SHALL
PASS.

SUIT
INTEGRITY--

SCAN THE
STATUE...

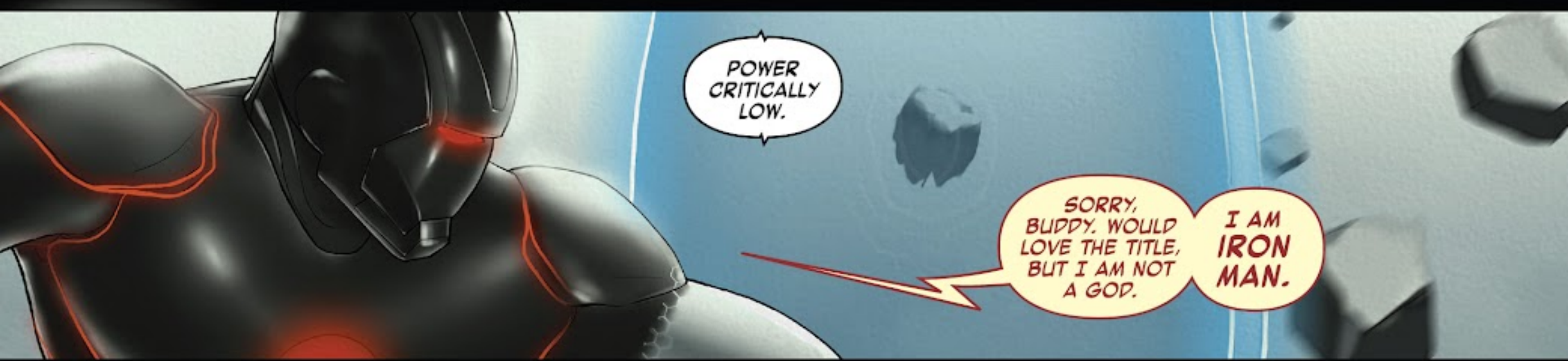
...FAST!

IS IT
ALIVE?!



SCANNING.
OBJECT DOES
NOT SATISFY THE
PREDEFINED STATUS
"ALIVE."

GOOD.

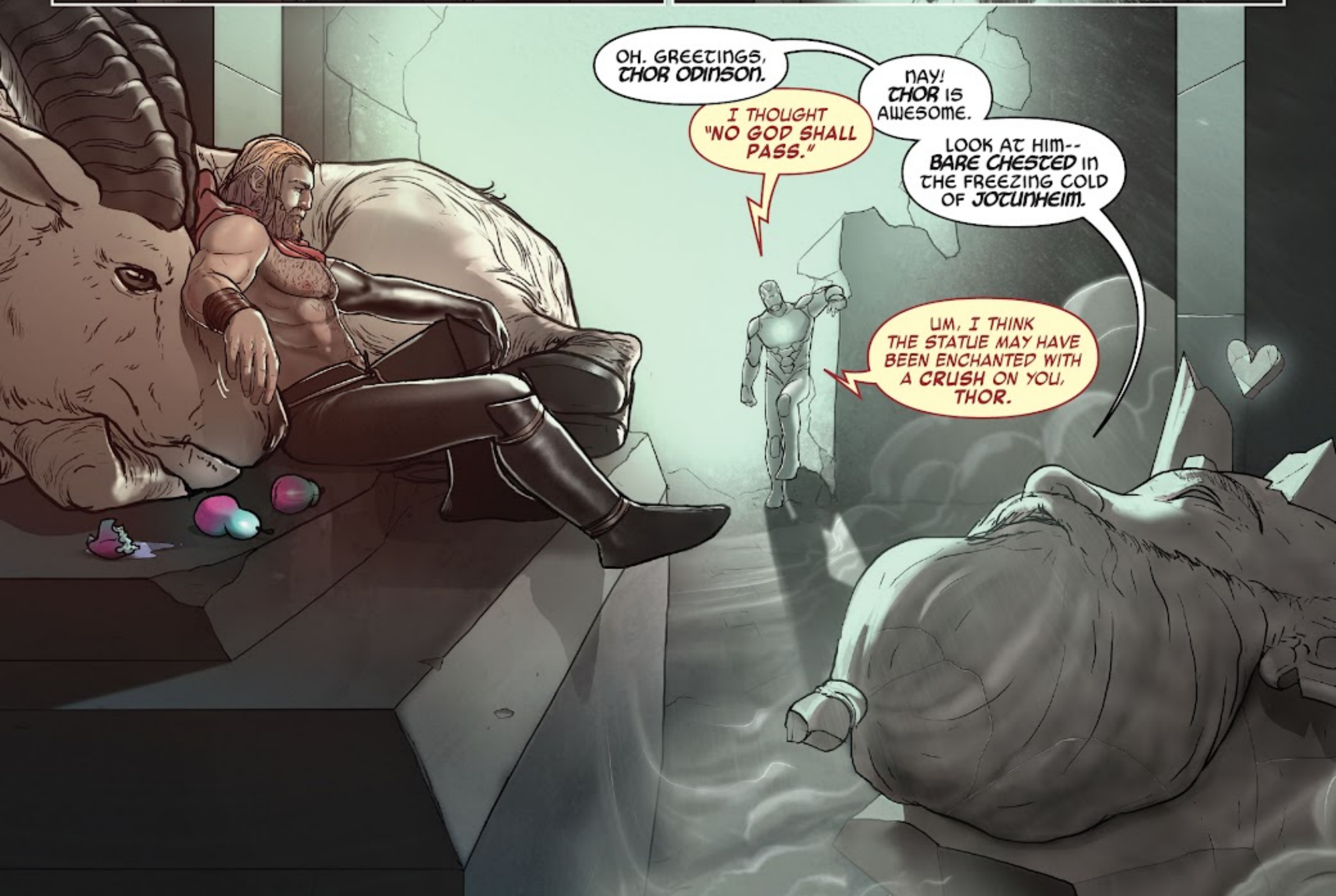


POWER
CRITICALLY
LOW.

SORRY,
BUDDY. WOULD
LOVE THE TITLE,
BUT I AM NOT
A GOD.

I AM
IRON
MAN.

ZERO DAYS LEFT.



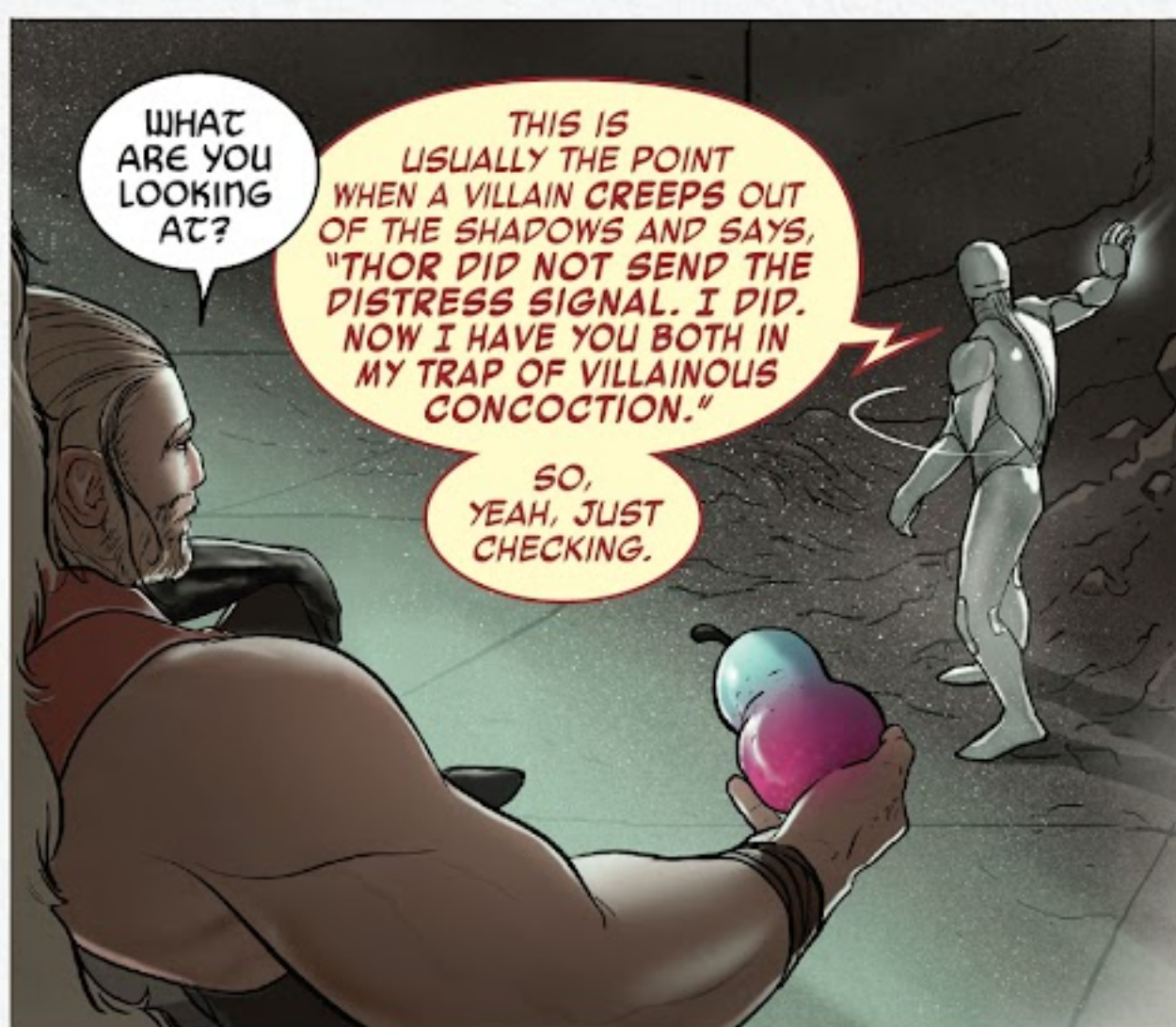


LOKI?

AYE.

I DID NOT SEND ANY.

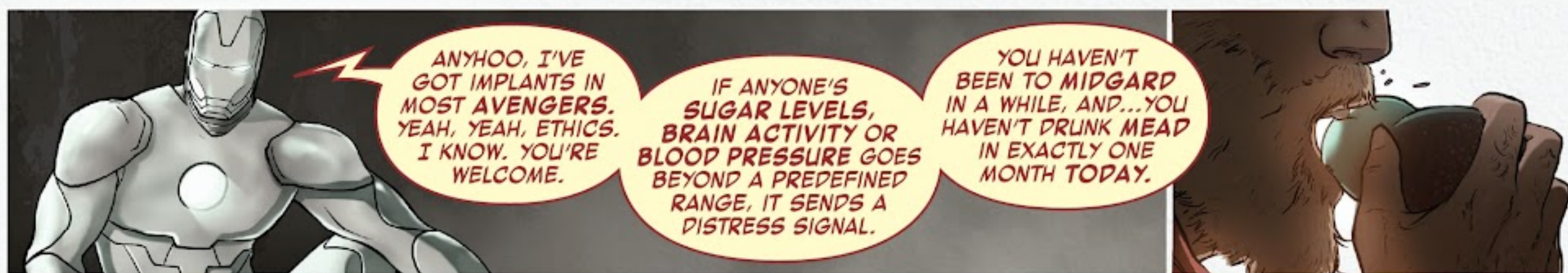
SO, I GOT A DISTRESS SIGNAL FROM YOU. WHAT'S UP?



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

THIS IS USUALLY THE POINT WHEN A VILLAIN CREEPS OUT OF THE SHADOWS AND SAYS, "THOR DID NOT SEND THE DISTRESS SIGNAL. I DID. NOW I HAVE YOU BOTH IN MY TRAP OF VILLAINOUS CONCOCTION."

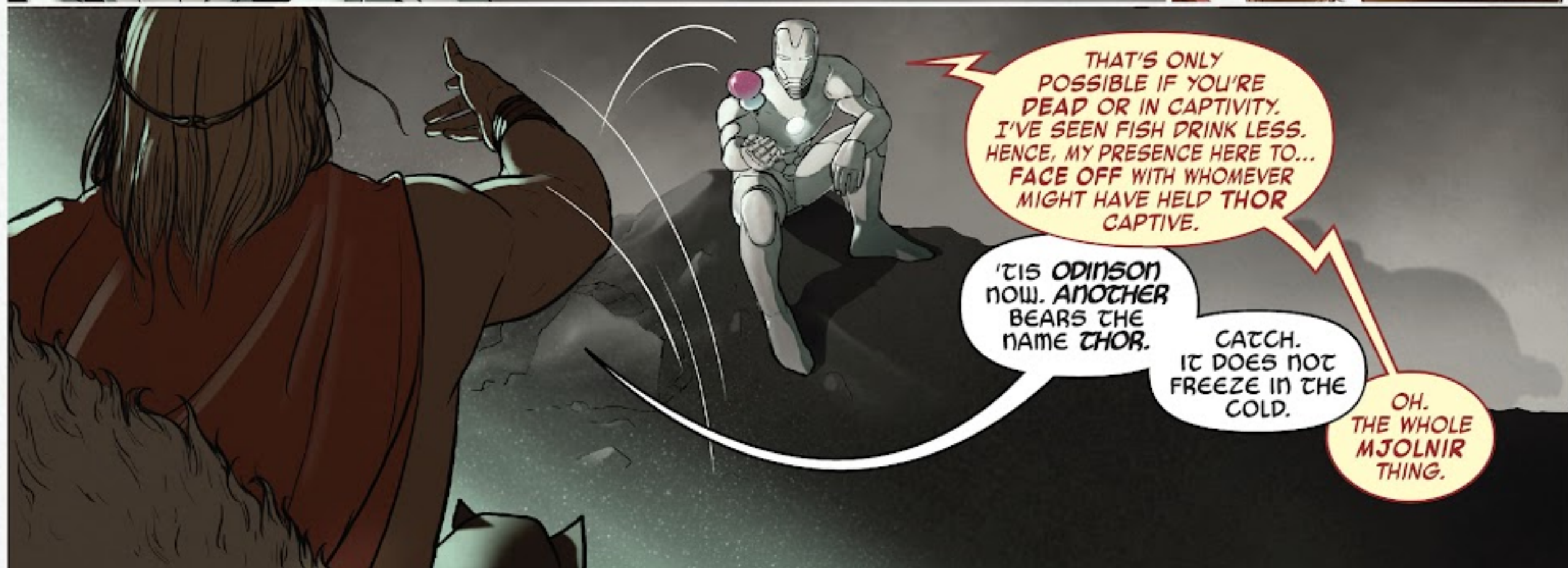
SO, YEAH, JUST CHECKING.



ANYHOO, I'VE GOT IMPLANTS IN MOST AVENGERS. YEAH, YEAH, ETHICS. I KNOW. YOU'RE WELCOME.

IF ANYONE'S SUGAR LEVELS, BRAIN ACTIVITY OR BLOOD PRESSURE GOES BEYOND A PREDEFINED RANGE, IT SENDS A DISTRESS SIGNAL.

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO MIDGARD IN A WHILE, AND...YOU HAVEN'T DRUNK MEAD IN EXACTLY ONE MONTH TODAY.

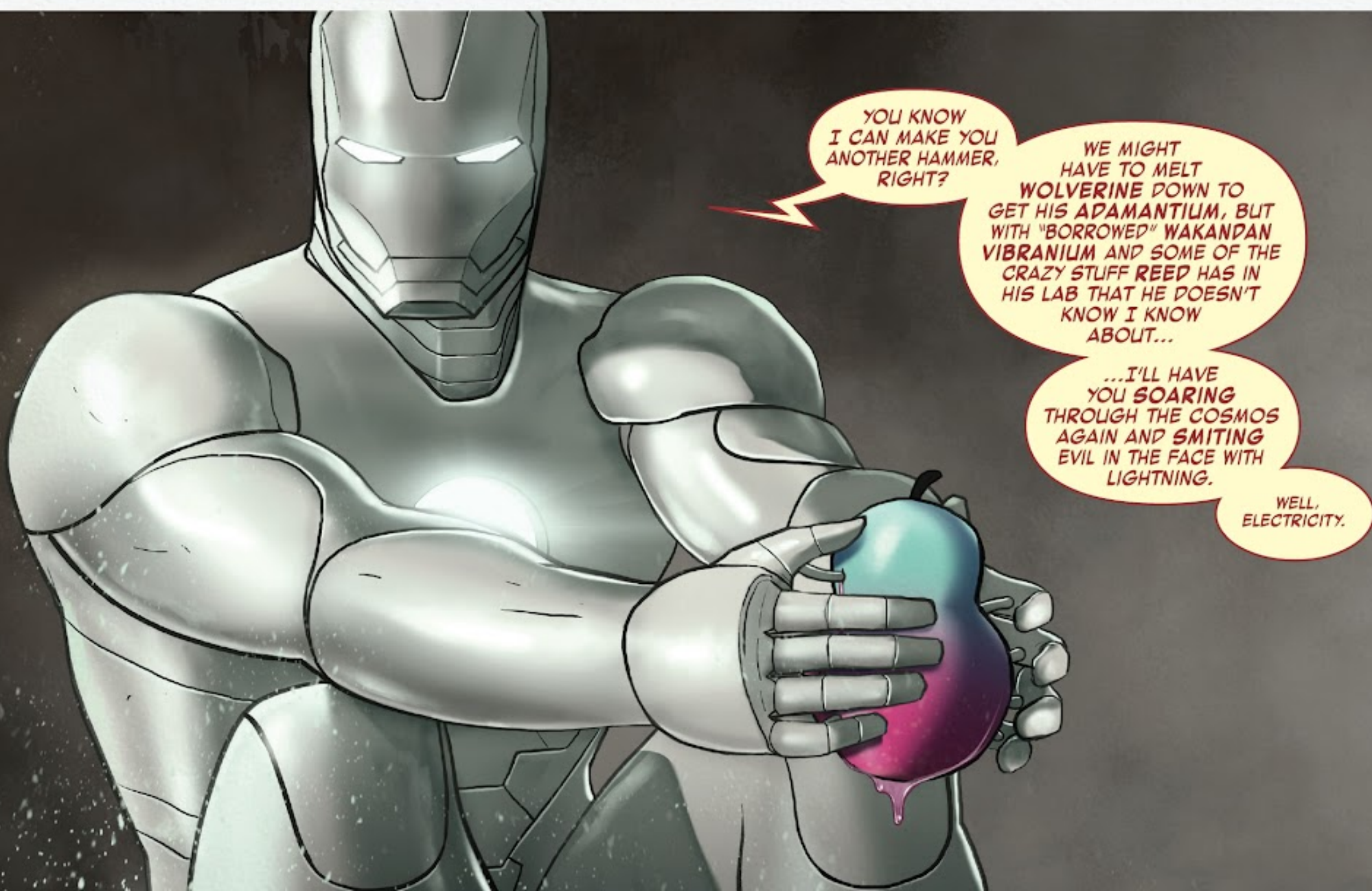


THAT'S ONLY POSSIBLE IF YOU'RE DEAD OR IN CAPTIVITY. I'VE SEEN FISH DRINK LESS. HENCE, MY PRESENCE HERE TO... FACE OFF WITH WHOMEVER MIGHT HAVE HELD THOR CAPTIVE.

'TIS ODINSON NOW. ANOTHER BEARS THE NAME THOR.

CATCH. IT DOES NOT FREEZE IN THE COLD.

OH. THE WHOLE MJOLNIR THING.



YOU KNOW I CAN MAKE YOU ANOTHER HAMMER, RIGHT?

WE MIGHT HAVE TO MELT WOLVERINE DOWN TO GET HIS ADAMANTIUM, BUT WITH "BORROWED" WAKANDAN VIBRANIUM AND SOME OF THE CRAZY STUFF REED HAS IN HIS LAB THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW I KNOW ABOUT...

...I'LL HAVE YOU SOARING THROUGH THE COSMOS AGAIN AND SMITING EVIL IN THE FACE WITH LIGHTNING.

WELL, ELECTRICITY.

"WITH ASGARD IN PERIL, ODIN DID THE IMPOSSIBLE. HE BATTLED THE GREAT STORM, *GOD TEMPEST*, THE DESTROYER OF REALMS, TO SAVE HIS PEOPLE.

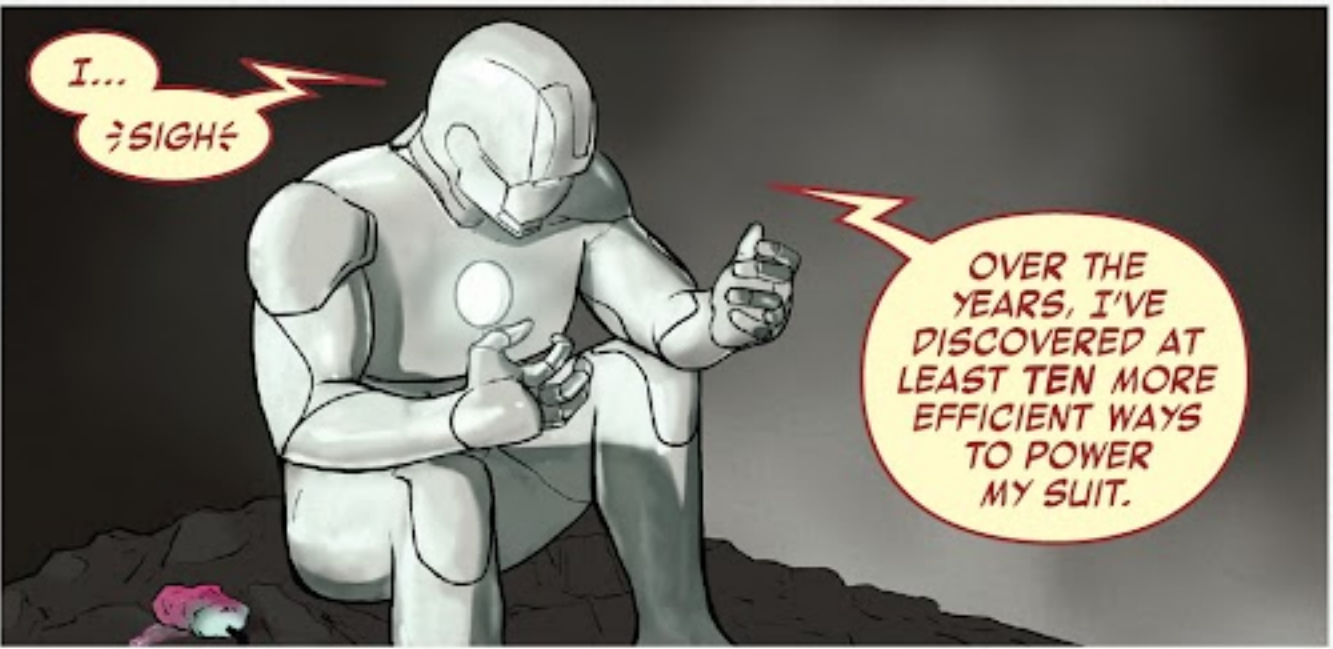
"WITH HIS *MIGHT*, HE TRAPPED THE STORM IN A PRECIOUS CHUNK OF *URU*. WITH HIS POWER, HE HAD THE DWARVES FORGE IT INTO A WEAPON.

"THE WEAPON, SITTING ON A SLAB FOR CENTURIES, WOULD NOT ALLOW ANY TO WIELD IT..."



...UNTIL IT CHOSE ME... THE SON OF ODIN.

I'M SORRY, STARK. NOTHING YOU FASHION CAN EVER...FEEL THE SAME.



I...
SIGH

OVER THE YEARS, I'VE DISCOVERED AT LEAST TEN MORE EFFICIENT WAYS TO POWER MY SUIT.



BUT I KEEP GOING BACK TO DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE ARC REACTOR BECAUSE I CAN'T STOP PICTURING THE SMILE ON HIS FACE IF HE SAW WHAT I'VE DONE WITH HIS DESIGNS... LIKE HE WAS STILL...HERE.

...LIKE, "LOOK, DAD. I GOT IT TO WORK." SO I PUT A DANGEROUS POWER SOURCE OVER MY CHEST BECAUSE IT BRINGS ME MORE COMFORT THAN IF IT WASN'T THERE.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL EVER GET MJOLNIR BACK. BUT WHAT MAKES MJOLNIR SPECIAL TO YOU--THAT FEELING YOU'VE HAD SO MUCH OF WHEN THE HAMMER WAS WITH YOU--

--IT'S NOT GONE. IT'S STILL THERE. IT CAN'T BE TAKEN AWAY FROM US.



YOU ARE A TRUE FRIEND, STARK. AND YOUR FATHER WOULD BE VERY PROUD. BUT I'M SORRY. I STILL NEED MY HAMMER.



THIS IS WHY CAPTAIN AMERICA GIVES THE SPEECHES.

THE ARMOR'S THRUSTERS ARE STILL DAMAGED, MISTER STARK.

I'M NOT RIDING A GOAT WITH A BARE-CHESTED THOR, B.R.I.A.N.!

SO YOU'D RATHER CHOOSE DEATH?

WELL?

I'M THINKING.

DADDY'S BOYS

Murewa Ayodele & Dotun Akande

Discover more from Tony Stark's past in the pages of the upcoming I AM IRON MAN by the same creative team in 2023.

THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BATTLE BEHIND THE BAMBOO CURTAIN!

RIOTOUS RECAP DEPARTMENT! OUR HERO, FALLING TO HIS DOOM AFTER BARELY DEFEATING THE DREAD ULTIMO AT THE EDGE OF SPACE, WAS RESCUED BY MADAME MASQUE, WHO'D KIDNAPPED SENATOR HARRINGTON BYRD FOR HER MYSTERIOUS "MASTER"! AND NOW THEY'VE CRASH-LANDED IN...

CHINA,
IRON MAN?
**RED
CHINA?!**

I'M A UNITED STATES SENATOR! IF I'M FOUND HERE, IT'LL BE AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT--AND IT'LL BE YOU WHO TAKES THE BLAME!

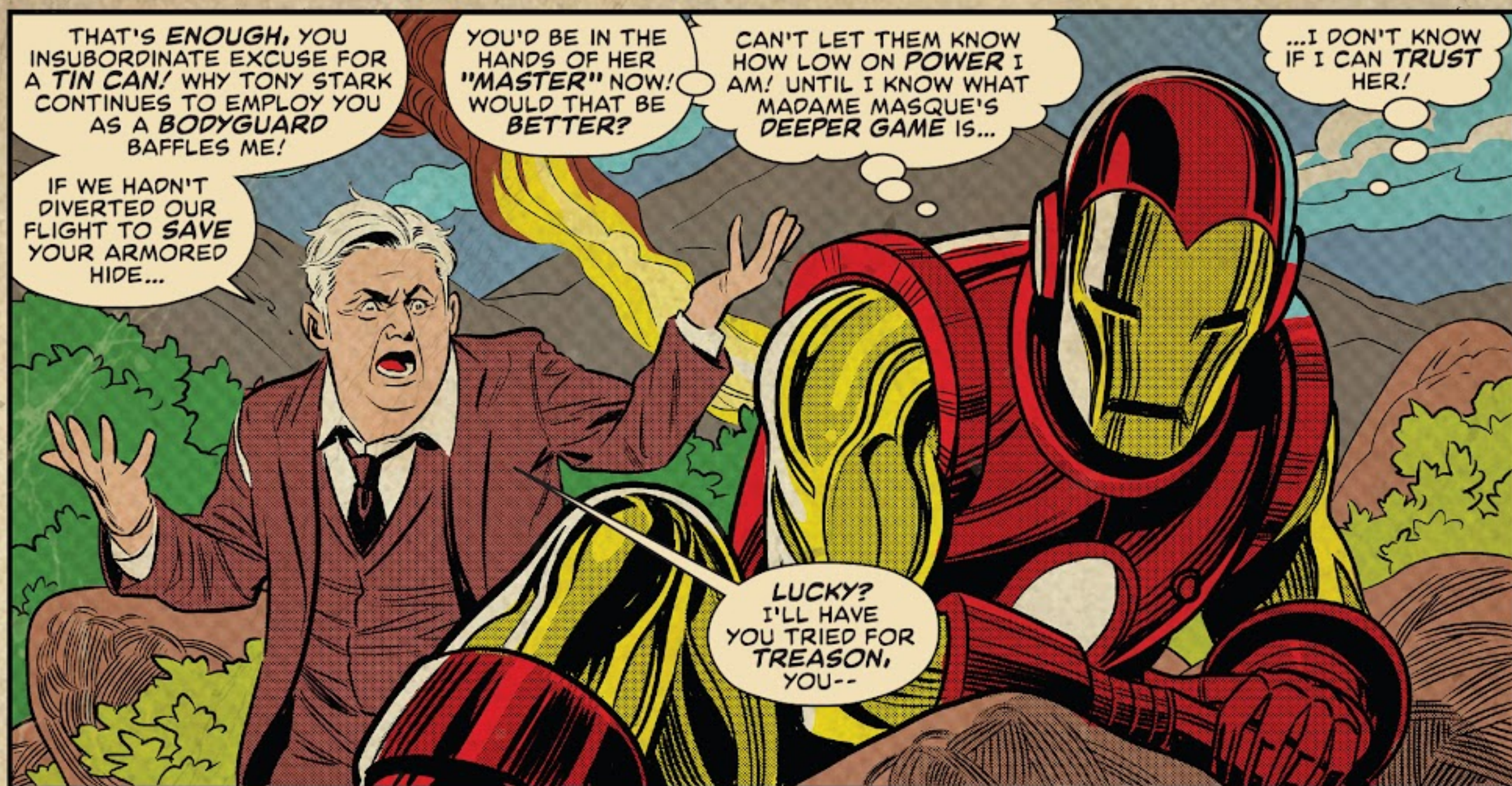
SORRY WE COULDN'T DROP YOU OFF IN YOUR HOME STATE, SENATOR...

...BUT WE HAD MORE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS-- AND WE STILL DO!

A TALE OF SUSPENSE, BY
(KINDLY) KURT BUSIEK and BENJAMIN (BANJO MAN) DEWEY

LYRICALLY LETTERED BY
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN TALES OF SUSPENSE #126.



THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU INSUBORDINATE EXCUSE FOR A TIN CAN! WHY TONY STARK CONTINUES TO EMPLOY YOU AS A BODYGUARD Baffles ME!

IF WE HADN'T DIVERTED OUR FLIGHT TO SAVE YOUR ARMORED HIDE...

YOU'D BE IN THE HANDS OF HER "MASTER" NOW! WOULD THAT BE BETTER?

CAN'T LET THEM KNOW HOW LOW ON POWER I AM! UNTIL I KNOW WHAT MADAME MASQUE'S DEEPER GAME IS...

...I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN TRUST HER!

LUCKY? I'LL HAVE YOU TRIED FOR TREASON, YOU--



YOU ARE A FOOL, BYRD! IRON MAN IS RIGHT TO SCOUT THE AREA--

--TO MAKE SURE WE'RE ALONE BEFORE WE PROCEED FURTHER!

BAH!

BAD AS THINGS LOOK HERE, THEY MAY BE WORSE THAN ANY OF US KNOW! MY SUIT-RADIO STILL SEEMS FUNCTIONAL, BUT TRY AS I MIGHT--

--I CAN'T RAISE A PEEP FROM STARK INDUSTRIES!



FOR THE ANSWER TO THAT MYSTERY, LET'S JUMP HALFWAY AROUND THE GLOBE TO THE LONG ISLAND HQ OF THAT SELFSAME HIGH-TECH CORPORATION...

WHAT'S GOING ON, HAPPY?



THAT DEDICATED ULTRA-LONG-RANGE FREQUENCY'S SUPPOSED TO BE PERMANENTLY LINKED TO IRON MAN! IS HE ALL RIGHT?

WISH I KNEW, PEP! I'M RESTARTING THE SYSTEM, BUT--

IT...IT WAS ME!

I...SHUT DOWN THE PLANT DEFENSES...KNOCKED OUT COMMUNICATIONS...SO MADAME MASQUE COULD KIDNAP BYRD...!

BUT WHY, EDDIE?
WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS?
TONY'S YOUR FRIEND--
HE EVEN TRUSTED YOU
ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU
A SUBSTITUTE
IRON MAN!*

I...DON'T
KNOW!



*BACK IN IRON MAN #21.
--TITANIC TOM

WHAT I REMEMBER...IT FEELS
SO UNREAL, LIKE SOME CRAZY
DREAM! ALL I COULD SEE WAS
A SHAPE...A COMMANDING,
SHADOWY FIGURE...

...AND HIS
HANDS...THEY
SPARKLED!
LIKE...

...LIKE HE
WAS WEARIN'...
RINGS!



RINGS, EDDIE MARCH? THAT
SEEMS LIKE OUR CUE TO SWITCH
SCENES AGAIN--TO AN UNDISCLOSED
LOCATION AND A CERTAIN
RING-WIELDING "MASTER"...

AT LAST,
ALL IS NEARLY
WITHIN MY
GRASP!

BYRD IS,
IF NOT IN HAND,
AT LEAST CLOSER TO
FULL INTERNATIONAL
HUMILIATION! I SHALL
HAVE TO PUNISH MADAME
MASQUE FOR HER
TRANSGRESSION...

...AND FINISH
OFF IRON MAN,
AS WELL! BUT
THESE ARE SMALL
MATTERS!



AFTER ALL, NOTHING
ESCAPES MY NOTICE--I HAD
AGENTS TRACKING THEIR
SKY-CRAFT, ALLOWING ME TO
REACTIVATE YET ANOTHER
UNDERLING!

ONE WHO
STANDS READY TO
ACT, AS SOON AS
HE RECEIVES--



--THE
SIGNAL!

KLIK





WELL, THAT SOUNDS BAD!
WE'D BETTER HUSTLE BACK
TO THE HIMALAYAS, FOLKS,
BEFORE THINGS START
REALLY POPPING...!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT--
WE'RE CLEARLY ALONE.
BUT IT'S GETTING COLD--
AND I'M HUNGRY!

GOT AN
ANSWER FOR
THAT, YOU
TWO?

THINK OF YOUR
BELLY LATER, BYRD--
AFTER WE
DEPART!

NONE OF
YOU WILL BE
LEAVING! AT
LEAST--

--NOT
UNDER
YOUR OWN
POWER!

WHAT
IN--?



COMING THROUGH THOSE TREES!
SOMETHING--OR SOMEONE! AND BY
THE SOUND OF IT, SOMEONE HUGE--
SOMEONE POWERFUL!

KRKSSHH

HAH!
TOO LONG HAVE
I WAITED! TOO LONG
HAVE I BEEN IDLE!
BUT NOW THE MASTER
COMMANDS!
AND SO...



...THE
RADIOACTIVE MAN
STRIKES!!!

I HAVE BEEN
OUT OF FAVOR WITH MY
GOVERNMENT AS OF LATE,
AMERICANS! BUT WHAT A
PRIZE I WILL BRING
THEM NOW--

--THE MIGHTY
WAR-MONGER
HARRINGTON BYRD! A
CAPITALIST POLITICIAN--
ILLEGALLY IN CHINA WITH
A KNOWN CRIMINAL
AND A CORPORATE
THUG!

THE SHOW
TRIAL WILL BE
A SENSATION--
AND A HUGE
EMBARRASSMENT
FOR THE WEST!



YOU TAKE BYRD
OVER MY DEAD BODY,
GREENJEANS!

OF COURSE,
YOU FOOL--



--THAT IS
PRECISELY
THE PLAN!

THAT IS WHY I
ALLIED WITH THE
MASTER IN THE
FIRST PLACE--



--TO PROVE ONCE AND FOR
ALL THAT MY RADIOACTIVITY-
SPAWNED MIGHT IS FAR, FAR
SUPERIOR TO THE DECADENT
TECHNOLOGIES OF
THE WEST!

AS I
DEMONSTRATE--
NOW!

KRANGG

UHH!

I'M...WEAKER THAN
I'D THOUGHT! AFTER
ULTIMO...AFTER BRINGING
MASQUE'S DAMAGED SHIP
DOWN WITHOUT FATALITIES,
I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT!

I'M
HELPLESS
AGAINST HIM!



THE
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN--
PFAH! YOU ARE LIKE A
MERE CHILD IN MY HANDS!
A CHILD AND--IN
MOMENTS--

--A CORPSE!

CAN'T EVEN
ACTIVATE MY
BOOT-JETS!

CAN'T...
EVEN...



AND NOW FOR YOU, MADAME MASQUE! YOU WERE TO TAKE BYRD DIRECTLY TO THE MASTER--BUT YOU LET SENTIMENT GET THE BETTER OF YOU!

A MISTAKE THAT WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE!

AH, LOOK--

SILENCE, BYRD! THIS FOOL MUST LEARN--



--THAT MADAME MASQUE--

--IS NEVER WITHOUT RESOURCES!

EH?!



YOU THINK DESTROYING MY WEAPON WILL STOP ME?!

I NEED NO WEAPON--I AM A WEAPON! I CAN TEAR YOU TO SHREDS WITH MY BARE HANDS! OR SIMPLY INCREASE MY BODY'S RADIATION--



NO! NO--!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM

--AND BURN YOU TO ASH WHERE YOU STAND!!

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT, R.M.?

HM? WHO--?



THKASH
THKASSH

WHAT
IN GOD'S
NAME--?

AHH,
NOW THAT'S
BETTER!



YOU? IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE--!

AW, YOU REMEMBER HOW
TENACIOUS WE "CORPORATE
THUGS" CAN BE, RIGHT?

JUST LIKE I'M SURE
YOU REMEMBER THOSE
LEAD-FOIL WRAPPINGS
I USED TO SHUT DOWN
YOUR RADIATION
BEFORE, RIGHT?*

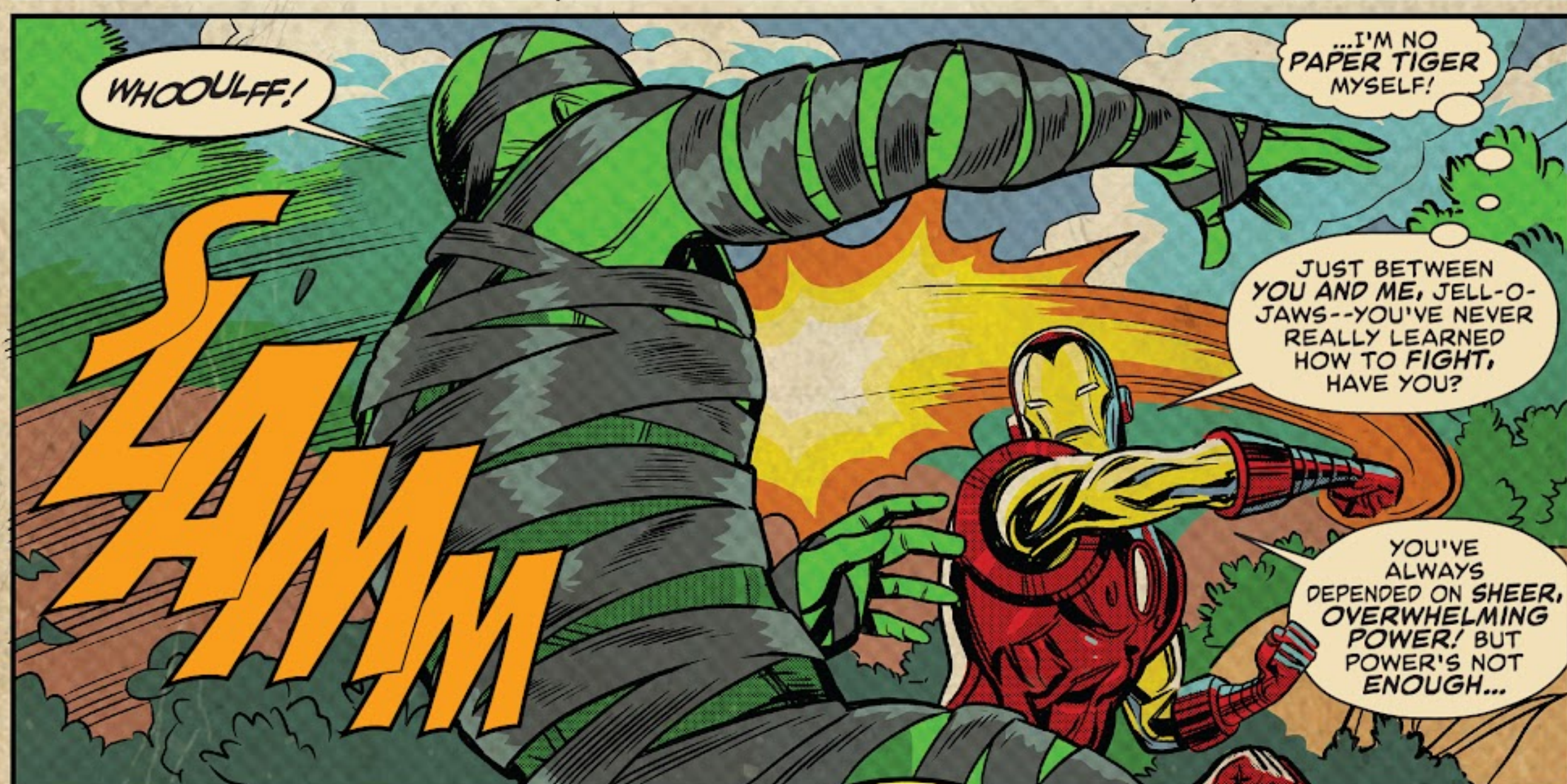
I'LL ADMIT, IT
WAS TOUCH AND GO
FOR A BIT, SCRAMBLING
UP THAT MOUNTAINSIDE!
BUT I MADE IT TO
THE SHIP--AND ITS
BATTERIES--

--FOR A
HIGH-SPEED
RECHARGE!

*AND YOU REMEMBER 'EM TOO, FROM WAY
BACK IN AVENGERS #6, RIGHT? RIGHT? --TOM

SO NOW,
GREEN-
GILLS--

--IT'S TIME
FOR ROUND
TWO!!







--I THINK
IT'S TIME FOR
YOUR NAP!



AND LONG MINUTES
LATER, THE RADIOACTIVE
MAN HAS YET TO MOVE...

AH, IRON MAN, I, AH,
MAY HAVE BEEN HASTY
IN WHAT I SAID
EARLIER...

SAVE IT,
BYRD.

NOW THAT THE FIGHT'S
OVER, I'VE MANAGED
TO RE-MAKE CONTACT
WITH STARK INDUSTRIES.
THEY'RE HAVING S.H.I.E.L.D.
SEND OUT A TEAM TO
PICK US UP.

BUT
HAPPY HOGAN
TOLD ME SOMETHING
INTERESTING ABOUT
THIS MYSTERIOUS
"MASTER"--A LITTLE
DETAIL ABOUT
SOME RINGS.



SO IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO
MAKE A CHOICE, MADAME
MASQUE. TO DECIDE WHICH
SIDE YOU'RE ON, ONCE
AND FOR ALL.

BECAUSE I'M
TAKING THIS FIGHT
TO THE MANDARIN
NOW. AND YOU CAN
EITHER HELP--



--OR I'M TELLING
YOU RIGHT NOW,
LADY--

--YOU'LL
FALL WITH
HIM!



Next: The Final Showdown!
LET FREEDOM RING!

**THINGS TO
COME...**



"SOMEONE IS
TRYING TO KILL
TONY STARK..."

...AND DESPITE EVERYTHING
BAD THAT'S TRANSPIRED
RECENTLY, THIS MAN DESERVES
THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT
BECAUSE OF HIS HEROIC
PAST.



WHY
DIDN'T YOU
TRUST ME
WITH THE
TRUTH?



"IT'S ALL
GONE TO HELL,
HOWARD."



"THE MISTAKES OF THE
PAST ARE DRAWING
FRESH BLOOD TODAY..."



"...AND I HAVE
NEW ENEMIES."

WHO AVENGES
YOUR VICTIMS,
MR. STARK?



**THE DEADLY GAME BEGINS
THIS DECEMBER IN...**



**THE INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN #1**

NEXT

THE INVINCIBLE

IRON MAN



TONY STARK, THE GENIUS-BILLIONAIRE-PLAYBOY-PHILANTHROPIST, HAS LOST IT ALL. BUT STARK DOESN'T REALIZE HE STILL HAS SO MUCH MORE TO LOSE, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ASSASSINS START TO COME FOR HIM! THE GOLDEN AVENGER MUST FIGHT FOR HIS LIFE AND FIND OUT WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO HIT ROCK BOTTOM. JOIN **GERRY DUGGAN AND **JUAN FRIGERI** AS THEY TAKE IRON MAN TO THE DARKEST CORNERS OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE YET!**

